

POSTER INSIDE  
Sangatsu no Lion and  
Little Witch Academia

# otaku

A S I A

otakuasia.com  
January - February 2017  
Php 100

3月のライオン

March comes in like a lion

ONE ASIA JOINT CONCERT 2016  
TOEI ANIMATION PH 30<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
CON-IN-FOCUS

HELPFUL JAPANESE PHRASES  
MANABIMASU

LITTLE WITCH ACADEMIA  
HOT ANIME

ASSASSIN'S CREED FILM  
STAR WARS ROUGE ONE  
BITZ

THE APPS THAT I USE RIGHT NOW



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ANIMATION | KUZU NO HONKAI |DANSAN JOSHI | AGAIN!!!  
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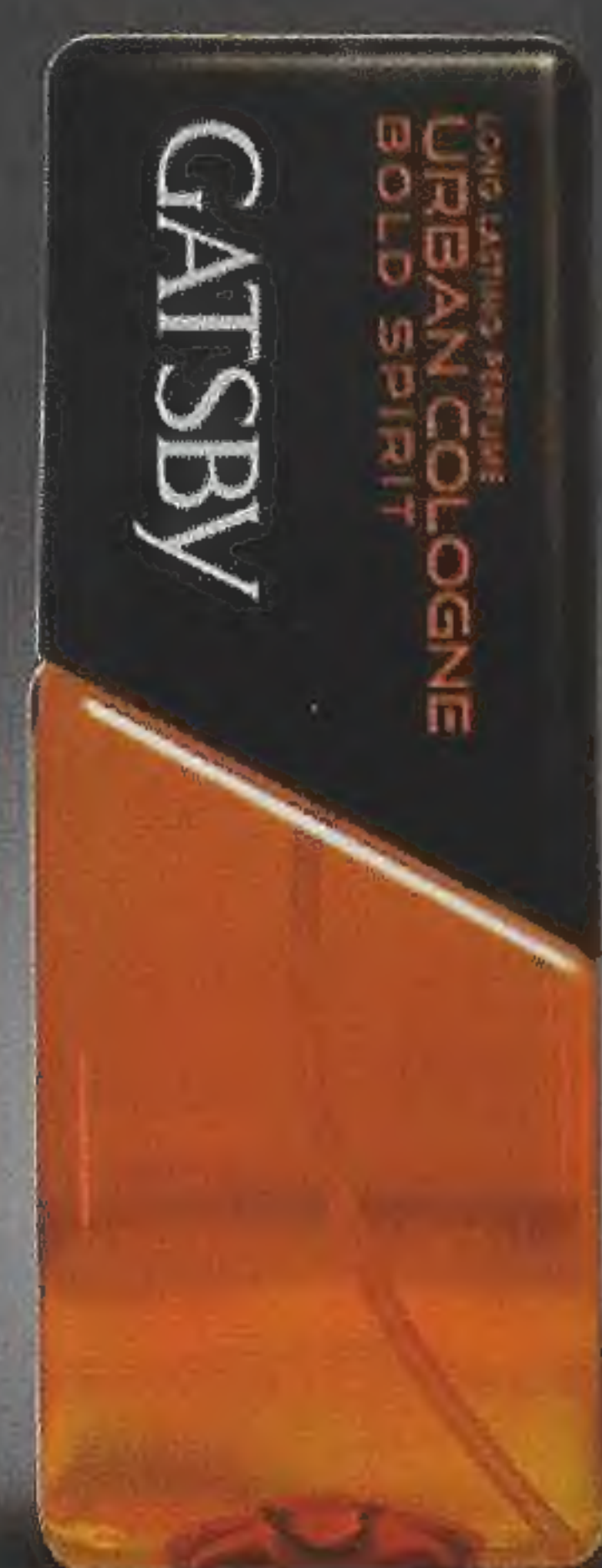


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The transition from one year to another is always a hard thing. For us, it is to find an anime that could end 2016 but also start 2017 and we chose *Sangatsu no Lion*. Shaft has always produced wonderful and interesting shows and this one is just as different.

This issue we have the indie movie, *Saving Sally* and the newly opened Red Monster Shop + Cafe. Otaku Asia aims to be the one to bring you the local otaku scene. Like how our Toei Animation Philippines celebrated their anniversary and when we welcomed AKB48's team 8 for the 60th Philippine Japan Friendship event.

There are so many things to be look forward on 2017 and one is another year of pop culture with a list of events, apps to download and even more Japanese restaurant franchises to try.

To those who caught our online survey last year, we are all grateful and promise to keep working to serve you better! Thank you for your support!

– SirKent



PARTNERS:



## OTAKU ASIA MAGAZINE

Heloise Blythe R. Diamante **Editor in Chief**  
Dianne Michelle E. Gaviño **Editorial Manager**  
Alexander P. Ramos **Graphic Artist**  
Aaren Arali DG. Santos **Layout Artist**  
Jupiter A. Fontanos **Photographer**

## PSICOM PUBLISHING INC.

Arnel N. Gabriel **President**  
Rico L. De Jesus **Marketing Manager**  
Mark Carl R. Gonzales **Sales & Events**  
Charlene B. Payawal **Creative Consultant**  
Jemielyn P. Doromal **Administrative Officer**  
Nessades M. Ramos **Accounting**  
Vincent R. Japor **Liaison Officer**  
Joel S. Carvajal **Circulation Officer**  
Luzviminda C. Rojas **Circulation Officer**

### Contributors

Dhanliza A. Cellona, Mikelle Jan Felix C. Abubo,  
James Louis C. Bayot, Nathaniel Angelo A. Angeles,  
Ann Carmel H. Flores, Elaine Rose V. Palaruan

### FOR ADVERTISING INQUIRIES

ricoldejesus@yahoo.com

### FOR EDITORIAL INQUIRIES

otakuasiaanimemag@gmail.com

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f /perkeepersoitems

yp\_perkee

perkee2011@gmail.com

09351665849







**KONNICHIIWA!!**

I'm here again!!  
Bwahahaha!! Here's my  
drawing of Misa Amane  
from Death note.  
Sana ma-feature ninyo  
ang Scandal band for the  
next issue :3

**MOORR PAWAAH  
OAM TEAM!!**

-Karen Garcia Salangsang



I always buy your  
magazine if I have  
money and thank you for  
anime issues you create.

Thank you again.

-Micah Anonuevo



**Konnichiwa!!!!**

Just wanna thank you guys for  
delivering such an excellent job  
on your magazine .

I've been collecting your mag  
ever since you guys featured my  
#1 seiyuu idol Kaji Yuki and you  
guys keep featuring my favorite  
series like Owari no Seraph and  
Bungo Stray Dogs so super  
duper thanks!!

I hope Servamp will be featured  
soon and also I hope you guys  
will feature my fanart of Yuki  
Kaji. Congrats for the big  
success on your mag. Faito!!

Gambatte minna san!! and ima  
made arigatou gozaimasu!!  
Keep it up

-Michelle Reyes



Anne Valiente



Hazel Ann Melecio



Omg I'm a Otaku For Life Promise.  
Anyways I got a request , a fan art to  
show off. I wanna be part and seen on  
your Inbox section of Otaku Asia  
badly. Please grant my birthday wish  
request.

I wanna be straight forward ...  
I am a totally die hard fan of Kuroko  
no Basuke so here's my drawing or fan  
art.

I hope you'll feature it on your mag.

-Richziel Chyz Serrano Abiera



Hello Otaku Asia,

My name is Ishy Borromeo. I'm a big  
fan of your magazine. It's really great.  
It's also my first time to send you an  
email. Can you please feature  
"D.gray-man" on your next issue? I'd  
really appreciate it and I wish that  
you'll publish my fan art.

Thank you very much, and have a nice  
day

Got Requests? Fanmail to shoutout?  
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The audition that everyone has been anticipating and and waiting has now started! The MNL48 first gen. auditions. The audition will be open to all Filipino girls between 15-20 years old who aspires to become a member of MNL48; AKB48's sister group. All applicants also must be single as per the rules of being an idol in Japan. This won't be possible without the cooperative efforts of HalloHalo Entertainment and AKS Co., LTD.

A total of 64 girls will chosen as members and they will divided into 3 teams: Team M, Team N & Team L and will also have a ranking system similar to AKB48. The ranking system will be composed of Center Girl, Super 7, Selections (All-Stars), Under Girls, Next Girls and Kenkyusei (Trainees). Every year, an audition will also take place for new potential members.



This will be possible with the app designed and made exclusively for the audition itself called the MNL48 Plus. It's free to download at the Google Play Store and the App Store. All applicants and supporters must have the have an account in order to participate.

The applicants will create their profile and upload their images and videos and from there, the people who registered as supporters will follow and like them. The more likes and followers you have, the higher your ranking is. For updates, visit their official website [mnl48.ph](http://mnl48.ph).



## WE WANT MORE FATE

This is the February issue of Kadokawa's Monthly Newtype. On January 24, they ordered a second printing since the issue sold so well thanks to a 20-page feature on the upcoming 2017 anime based on Type Moon's franchise, *The Five Star Stories* manga and pin-ups of *Yuri!! on Ice* including ufotable's upcoming *Katsugeki! Touken Ranbu* anime.

Mostly thanks to Fate/fans.

source: animenewsnetwork

## THE IDOLMASTER: CINDERELLA GIRLS VIEWING REVOLUTION IN ENGLISH COMING TO ASIA

Bandai Namco has announced that PS VR game *The Idolmaster: Cinderella Girls Viewing Revolution* will be receiving an English localization to be released in Asia this spring.

Early orders will include a Cinderella Girls Producer Wristband and a PS4 theme with "Yes! Party Time!!" as the background music.







# HOOKED BOOK

by Ann

## BIG ADVENTURES AWAIT! MY AWESOME JAPAN ADVENTURE

Of all the people we should believe in, it's the children! Sure there are some naughty kids here and there, but one on an adventure will always let you in on honest reviews in his diary, just like Dan in "My Awesome Japan Adventure"! Japan has all sorts of interesting adventures but author and illustrator Rebecca Otowa takes us to its rural side to explore a different side from the usually depicted Tokyo. Through Dan, we learn what the Japanese culture is like through the eyes of a small person.

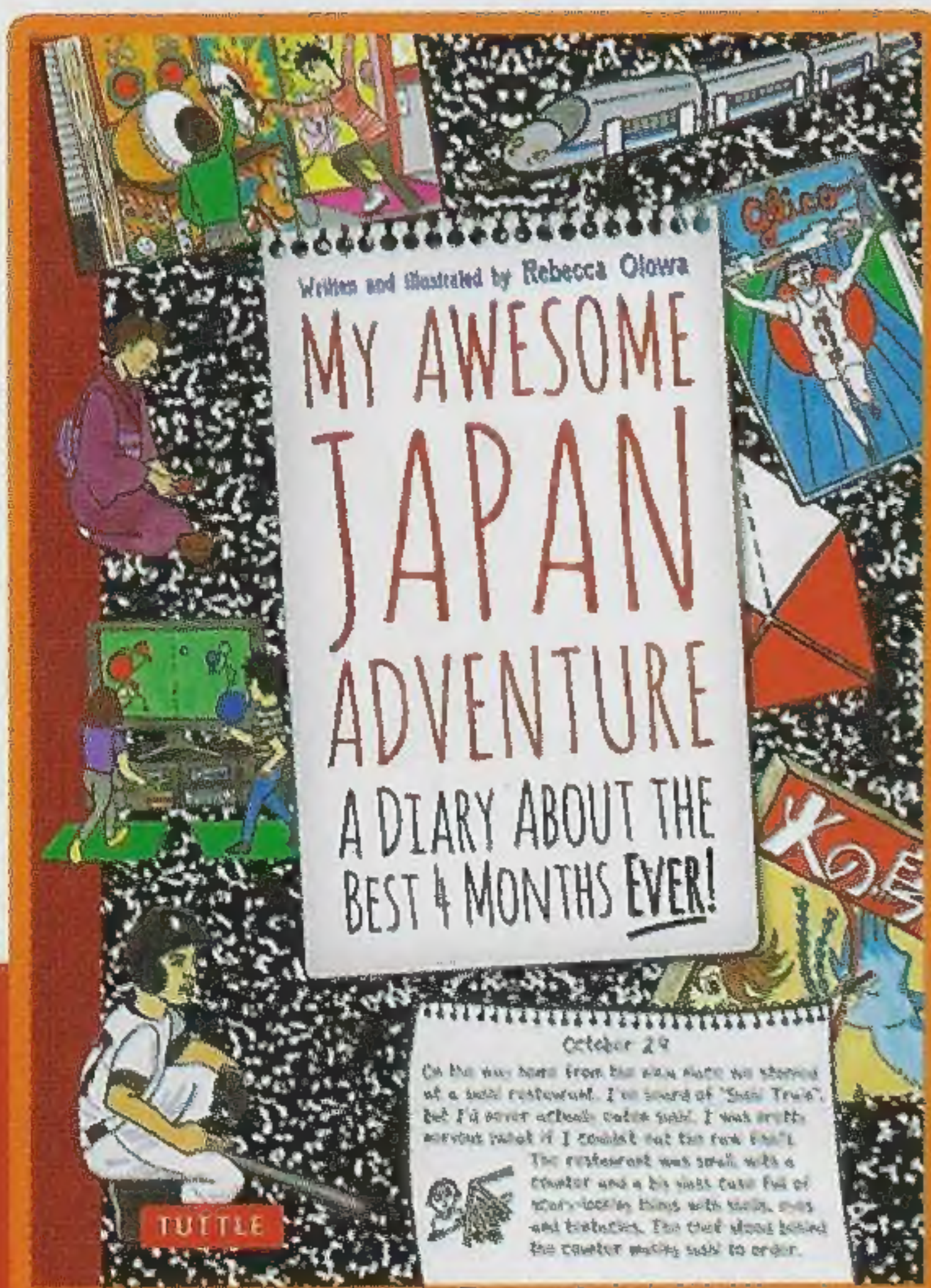
Dan is an American fifth grader who goes to Japan as an exchange student for four months. He stays with the Murata family, and being excited about this trip, he decides to write a diary about his "best 4 months ever!" This book not only caters

to children but also to adults who are interested in learning about this culture—food, basic house etiquettes, daily life in school, what it's like in a ninja village, the holiday celebrations, and much more. His four-month stay covers September to January, so many of the experiences relate to the seasonal activities in the country.

Aside from Dan's perspective of his stay, there are some factual information added through bubbles and captions to give the readers more information about each event. Moreover, the book offers "challenges" as activities that readers can do such as making mochi, origami, and onigiri; practicing aikido; and learning brush painting. Those just prove how informative and fun this piece is.

The Association of Booksellers for Children even chose "My Awesome Japan Adventure" as one of the best books of 2013. Each spread features watercolor layout filled with hand-written text to draw the eyes of readers, so it's a delightful read for everyone. This style is what an author like Otowa brings to the table based on her personal experiences in staying in Japan. She also wrote *At Home in Japan: A Foreign Woman's Journey of Discovery* for Tuttle Publishing in 2010.

So, what's a small person like Dan doing in Japan? He's out for big and awesome adventures that you and I will want too!



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JUST JAPAN

## J-Music Welcoming Every Beat

By Ann

In the usual scene of a Filipino family party, it's not a party without the karaoke! And who else shares the same feelings about karaoke? The Japanese!

Undeniably, the love of music is well-entrenched in both cultures, but Japan's music industry is so large that it is one of the largest music markets in the world among the Western nations. In fact, being part of their Oricon charts history is a big deal for any artist or group because of the impact it makes on one's track record as a musician. This passion is just part of the roots of music in their culture, which dates back to the days when they simply had bells and a few instruments that would resemble the modern drums and stringed instruments.

Music in Japan began with the influence of the Chinese through the Koreans, but the Japanese were able to modify music according to their needs, which at that time was for religious rituals and court entertainment accompanying dances and theater performances. Evidently, music has always been far-reaching and stimulating for the imagination to create more unique styles for different purposes. Some of the traditional instruments that they still use today include koto, shamisen, shinobue, shakuhachi, and wadaiko. Their music can

be characterized by its beautiful replication of their natural surroundings, from the sweet sound of the wind to the soft flow of the water.



Because influences from the West were unstoppable, Japan had to adapt, but they did so with style. Classical music was embraced in Japan and many students dedicated their lives to learn them. As such, orchestras started all over the country, and this type of music continues to prevail, taking into consideration the new era's tastes.

In another area of Western music, Japan had a favorable response when rock, heavy metal, pop, hip-hop, dance, and more modern music came to their scene. As we know, they redefined rock with their own label of J-rock with beats similar to Western rock but with lyrics consistent to Japanese poetry. J-pop also became a name of its own in the music world being a representation of mainstream Japan's hit music.



Today, Japan's music is heard on various platforms including but not limited to games, anime series, TV shows, films, and concerts. Having variety is one of their strengths, so it's no wonder that their music keeps evolving and touching more ears and hearts. Yet they never forget to look back to their past and see how their traditional music can still keep up with the modern music. So, there's no way Japan simply lets the West dominate, especially when it comes to the top charts.



To end, what does music mean to you? For me, good music I can sing and dance to keeps me sane and productive, so it's important that I'm able to share this passion with people. Music is more than an auditory experience because most of the time, even when we are unable to understand lyrics, we feel a certain connection to a song or a beat. Just imagine how great music is to link people all over the world! Now, just imagine how great Japan's musical diversity is for it to be a large chunk in our listening experience!





# Yamato

Product Number: FG8407  
Series: Kantai Collection  
Height: 26.00 cm  
Weight: 0.94 kg  
Parts: 104

First of the Yamato-class battleships, Yamato. Heading forth!



"First of the Yamato-class battleships, Yamato.

As the trump card for the Decisive Battle, I was made in utmost secrecy at the Kure Naval Yard.

With the most up-to-date and sophisticated technology concentrated in my body, along with the 2nd ship, Musashi, I will do my best as the centre of the combined fleet!"

Kancolle is an anime on anthropomorphize Japanese navy vessels. Original character design by: Shizuma Yoshinori. Yamato (大和), named after the ancient Japanese Yamato Province, was the lead ship of the Yamato class of battleships that served with the Imperial Japanese Navy during World War II. The only time she fired her main guns at enemy surface targets was in October 1944, when she was sent to engage American forces invading the Philippines during the Battle of Leyte Gulf.



## Sculpting

The details on the ship are spot on and remarkable. However, the sculpt on the face and her outfit could be better. She doesn't even look like the character. The details on the hair accessory is great though.

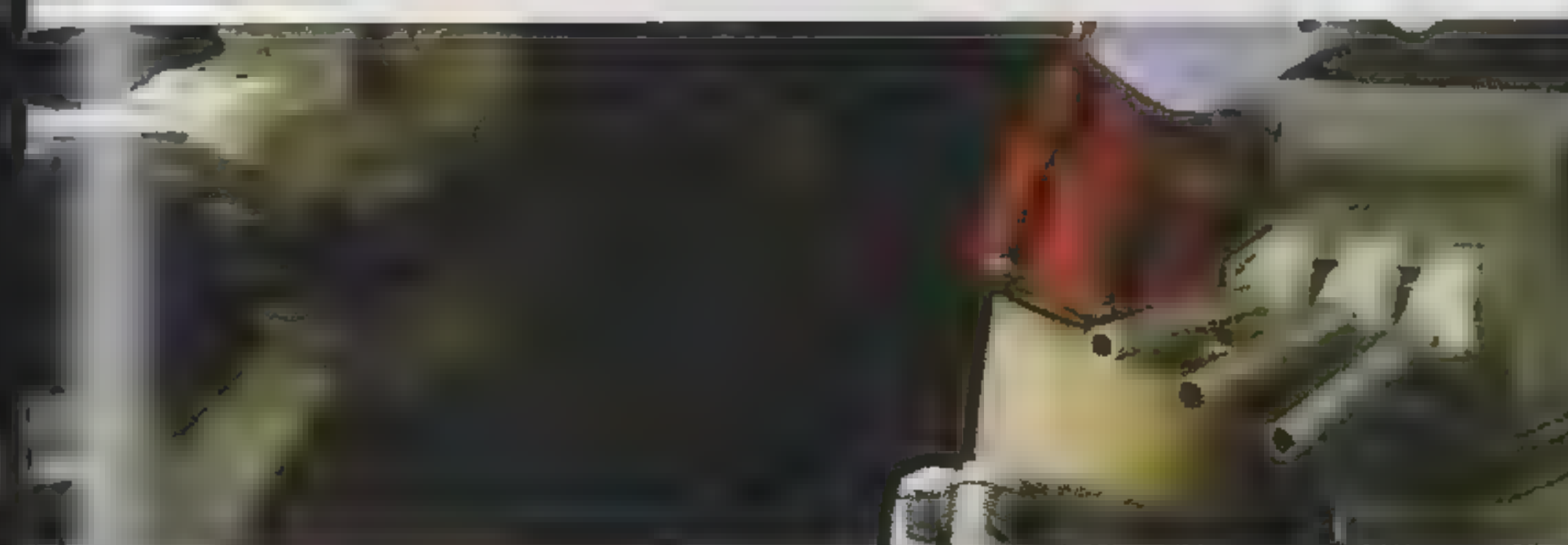
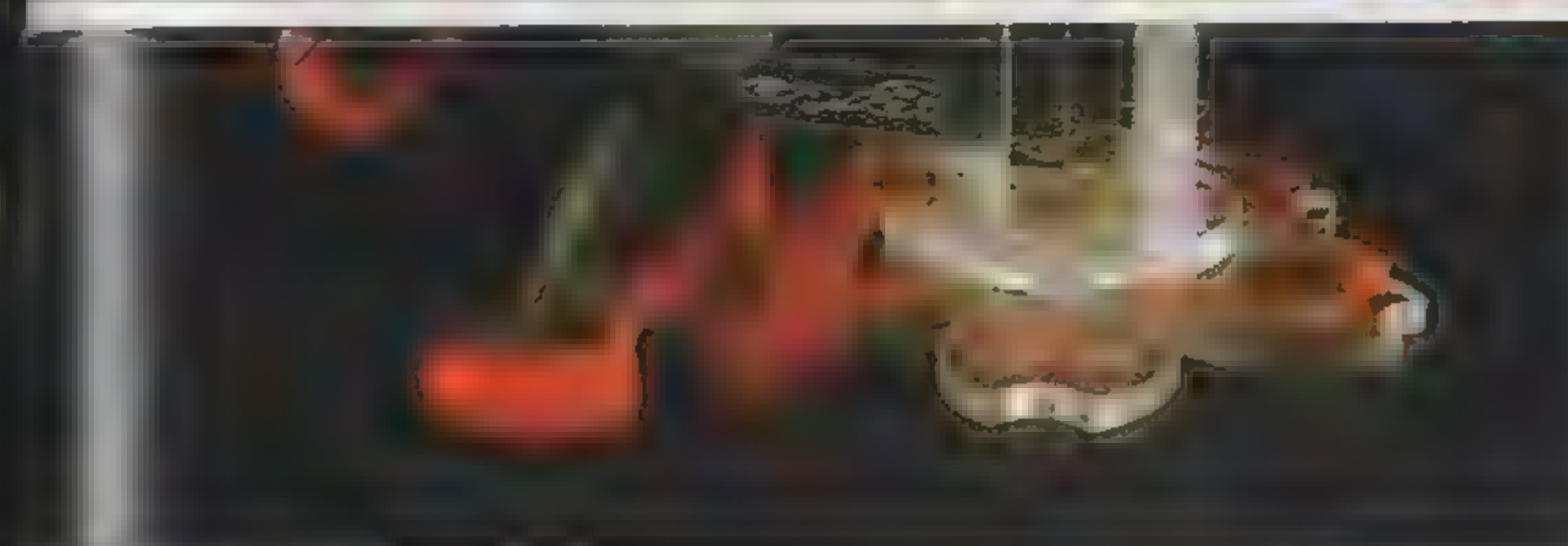
## Painting

The paint job is swell. The gradients on her cannons and guns are well done and the silver on the barrels look so real. The paint on her outfit is also well shaded. This will make you want to get the painted version instead of the GK.

## Price

We are not much of a Kancolle fan but we know how much a figure can go up to and this one is considerably cheap for a garage kit.

For a small price you already get this big figure at your display case. Since this is a garage kit, you can correct sculpting and painting yourself. Kancolle has a big following and you can even give this out as a gift!







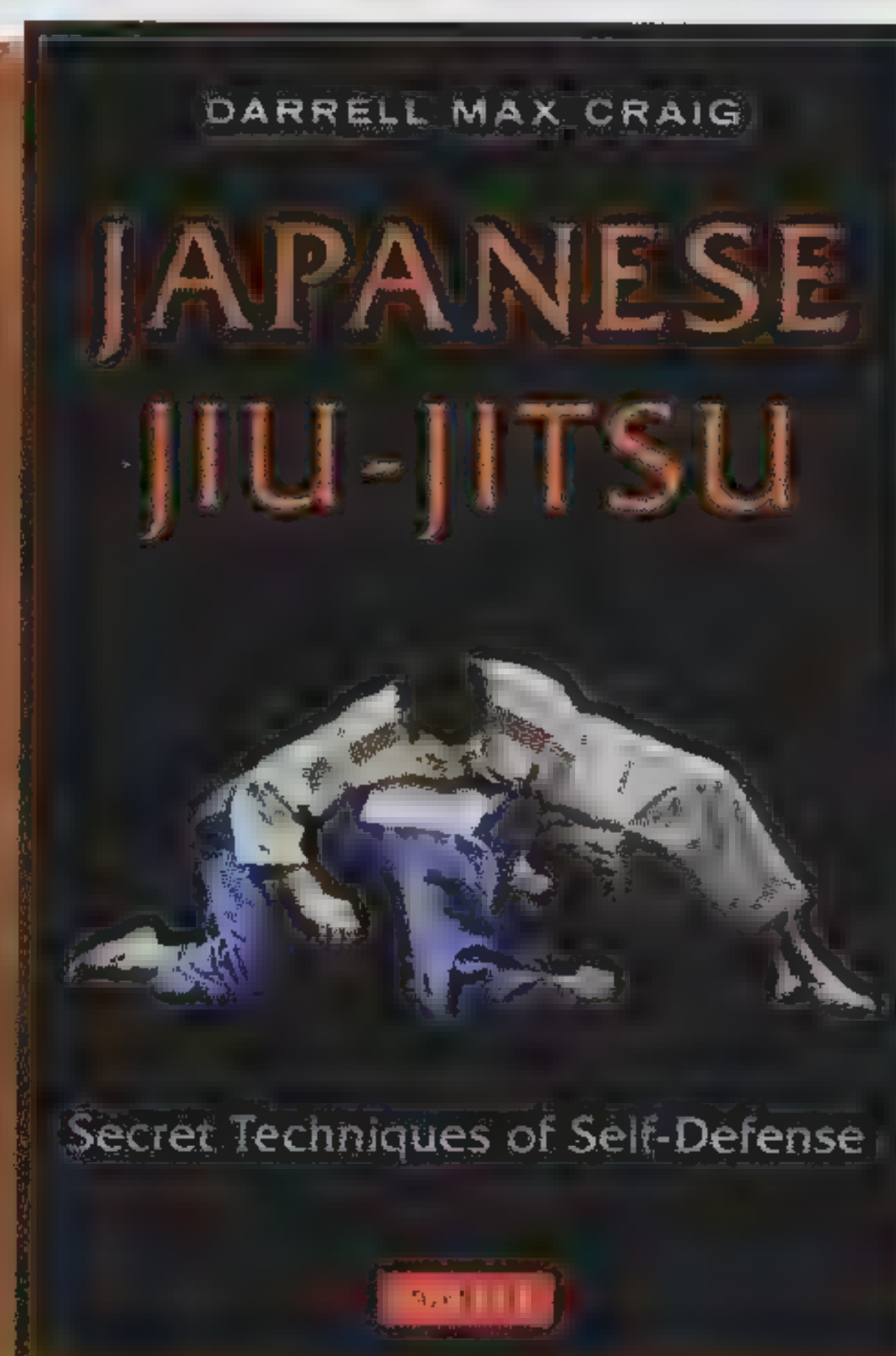
**HOOKED BOOK**

by lizac 3.0

# JAPANESE JIU-JITSU

You are now a character in an action/adventure manga. You need to fight armored enemies, but you have no weapons except for a pot lid. There is no way you can win, right? Knowing some martial arts before the big fight will help you defend yourself from the bad guys. One type of martial art that enables an unarmed person to fight an armored enemy without causing them too much impairment is Jujutsu or Japanese Jiu-jitsu. It was formed by the elite samurai class in the 1330s and only a chosen few were fortunate to have been taught this secret martial art. The strategy here is to engage an armored opponent in a close combat and use pressure points against them. By learning Jiu-jitsu effectively, you can make your enemies kneel before you or have them caught in their own trap.

**Japanese Jiu-Jitsu Secret Techniques of Self-Defense** as written by **Darrell Max Craig** is a self-help book that will guide you to the world of Jiu-jitsu. In this book, you will learn different techniques such as hojojutsu, the martial art that allows you to tie up your opponent without the use of actual knots, how to throw your opponent, and attack pressure points using strikes and kicks. Learning how to make use of the hands in close combat and weapons like staff are also illustrated in this book. Craig has done his research on Jujitsu together with instructors in the Tokyo police academy. He was first exposed to martial arts in the year 1956. Since becoming the Texas Karate Open Champion in 1968, he has furthered his art by authoring many books and choreographing martial arts scenes for films. He is currently managing his own dojo in Houston, Texas and has established a center dedicated to studying martial arts.



Jiu-jitsu might just be the surprise attack that gives the final blow to your opponent. Grab a copy of Craig's Japanese Jiu-Jitsu Secret Techniques of Self-Defense and warm yourself up for some action!

Japanese Jiu-Jitsu Secret Techniques of Self-Defense  
Publisher: Tuttle Publishing  
Format: Paperback  
Published on: 2/15/2015  
Price: \$11.87



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# 学びます

The last lesson :“NO の” and “KA か” from Otaku Asia issue 37.

Now we will teach NE ね and YO よ and other final particles.

## SENTENCE ENDING PARTICLES

Now we learn FINAL PARTICLES that when used, express shock, awe, admiration or to seek confirmation from the listener. Final particles are essential in spoken Japanese since particles as a whole are the basis on which the language rests but also because the speaker must intertwine his or her emotions into the speech to make it seem relevant.

### NE ね

Variouslly traslated as “right?”, “huh?”, or “isn’t it?”

It's hot  
あついです  
atsui desu

Is it hot?  
あついですか  
atsui desu ka

It's hot, isn't it?  
あついですね  
atsui desu ne

Ne or the elongated form nee is used to add some softness to a sentence and to seek confirmation from the listener.

Nice weather, isn't it?  
いいおてんきですね  
Ii o-tenki desu ne

It is, huh?  
そうですね  
Sou desu ne

### YO よ

The sentence-final yo is not the same as the possessive no, but a way to soften the sentence. We often use this particle when we are advising our partner on something as “I tell you” and “you know”

It's delicious, isn't it  
おいしいですね  
Oishii desu ne

It's delicious, you know  
おいしいですよ  
Oishii desu yo

In summary, neね asks for agreement, and yoよ tells how it is.

## Specialized Greetings and Sendings

Greetings that are commonly not in text books are in my source so I'dlike to share this as well. Don't feel obligated to memorize these ones immediately.

I'm leaving  
いってきます  
Ittekimasu

Goodbye  
いってらしゃい  
Itterashai

This one is common in manga, anime and doujins... when senpai comes home.

I'm back/ I'm home  
ただいま  
Tadaima

Welcome back/ Welcome home  
おかえり (なさい)  
O-kaeri (nasai)

-nasai is sort of like a “please” and makes the greeting formal. You may drop this to make it informal. As with -deshita below:

Thank you for your hard work  
おつかれさま (でした)  
O-tsukare-sama (deshita)

Thank you (very much)  
(どうも) ありがとう (ございます)  
(Doumo) arigatou (gozaimasu)

Excuse me/ I'm sorry  
(どうも) すみません。  
(Doumo) sumimasen

Excuse me./ I'm sorry  
しつれいします  
Shitsurei shimasu

Welcome  
ようこそ  
Youkoso

Now the following could be familiar is you frequent some of the Japanese restaurants opening around the Philippines:

Welcome. Come in  
いらっしゃいませ  
Irrasshaimase

I receive (this meal)  
いただきます  
Itadakimasu

It was quite a feast  
ごちそうさま (でした)  
Gochisou-sama (deshita)

Wakarimashita  
わかりました  
I understood (formal)

wakatta  
わかった

I understood (informal)

Wakarimasen  
わかりません  
I I don't understand (formal)

wakaranai  
わからない  
I don't understand (formal)

There is a polite greeting when entering someone's house. “Jama” means “a bother” or “an obstacle.” “Shimasu” means “to do.” “O” is added to make certain words more polite. These parts put together make something like:

Ojamashimasu  
おじゃまします  
I will disturb you

Ojamashimashita  
おじゃましました  
I have disturbed you

We do recommend that you take a proper Nihongo lesson even after your self study. When that happens, your Nihongo teacher might talk too fast or pronounce words differently, you can say,

mo ichido itte kudasai  
も いちど いって ください  
Please say it again

Next issue we will tackle Adjectives. I will try my best! More phrases next time too~

sources:  
japaneseprofessor.com/  
punipunijapan.com





## LOKAL'TAKU

by kanddy

The film that took twelve years to make came at the right time. The film blends animation and live action in the most creative way that no other Filipino film has ever done. The story is about a boy who was in love with a girl who is in love with a dick Nick and needs saving.

The movie stars Rhian Ramos and Enzo Marcos... years ago. So while the actors are now older, the film captures their younger selves portraying Sally and Marty respectively.

Saving Sally was conceptualized by Charlene Sawit and Avid Liongoren back in their college years in UP Diliman. The original intent was to post the film on the internet where anyone can watch Saving Sally at no cost. Production began and ended in 2005 due to financial constraint until a French film producer, Alain de la Mata helped them get a grant from the government of France. Production resumed in 2010 at KB studios the biggest & best soundstage in Mega Manila with artists from Rocket Sheep.



# SAVING SALLY

## WAS WORTH THE WAIT



concept art from their website, [savingsally.com](http://savingsally.com)

The film was finally released in Philippine cinemas as an official entry to the 2016 Metro Manila Film Festival. Despite being one of the least performing films at opening day in terms of box office, the production team has been invited to enter Saving Sally in international film festivals.

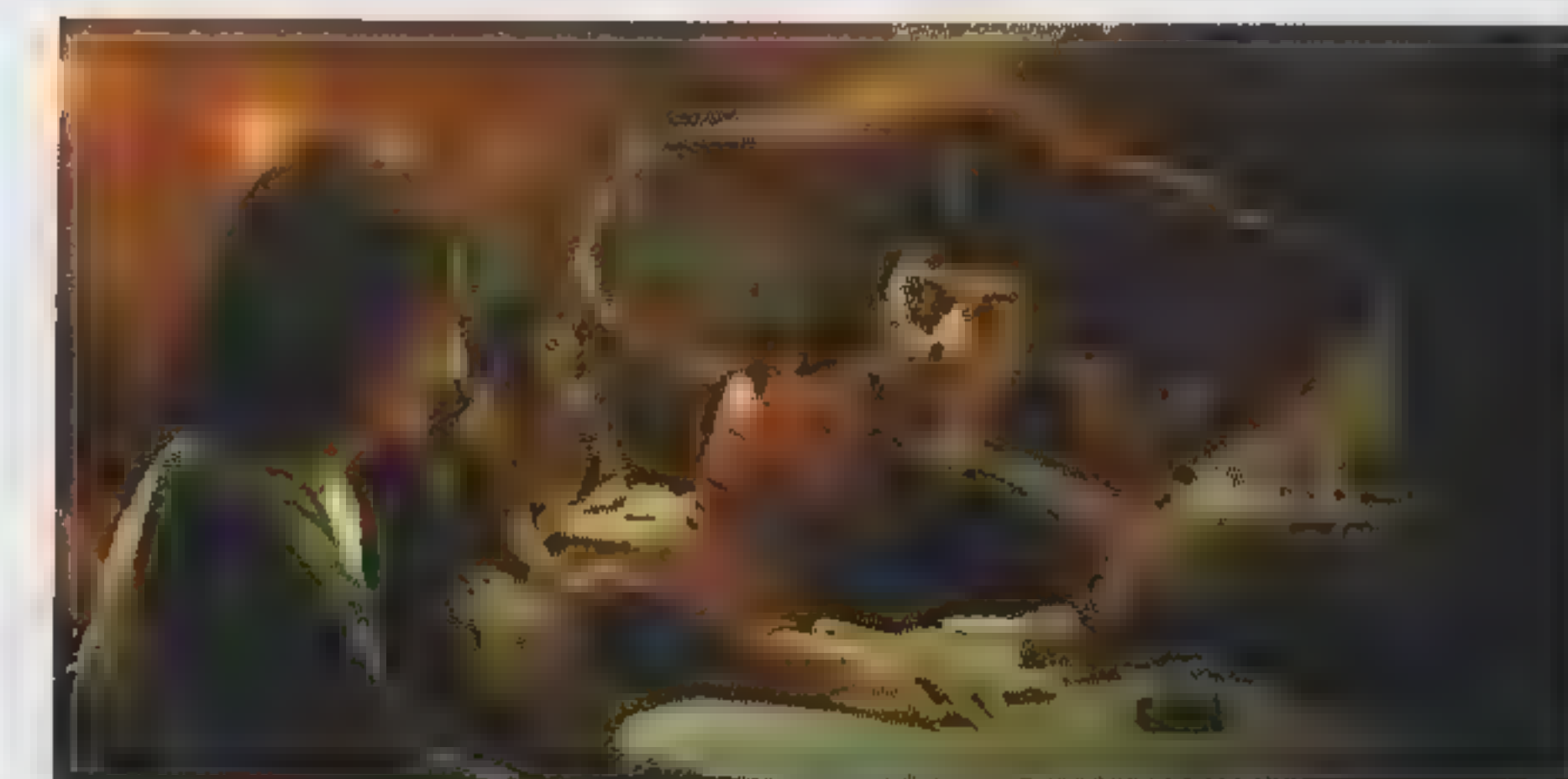
### Review

My plane just landed in Manila and I was already looking at screening times for Saving Sally. I just had to see it since we missed opening day being in the province for the holiday. My dad asked why and I said, "The movie is animated so it will be 400x better on big screen rather than wait for television release."

Don't be fooled, the film may be animated but the story is not for children as MTRCB has given it the PG rating but Cinema Evaluation Board gave it an A. The story is also very typical and, might I say it, predictable despite the different trials the couple went through. There were also scenes that I thought the movie could do without. I call these fillers and mostly comic relief since the story gets very dark, gritty and depressing.

Sawit was correct in saying that Saving Sally could be compared to MirrorMask a 2005 fantasy film by Neil Gaiman. The story flow was similar, the blend of art and reality was inspired and that both films are underappreciated. How could anyone

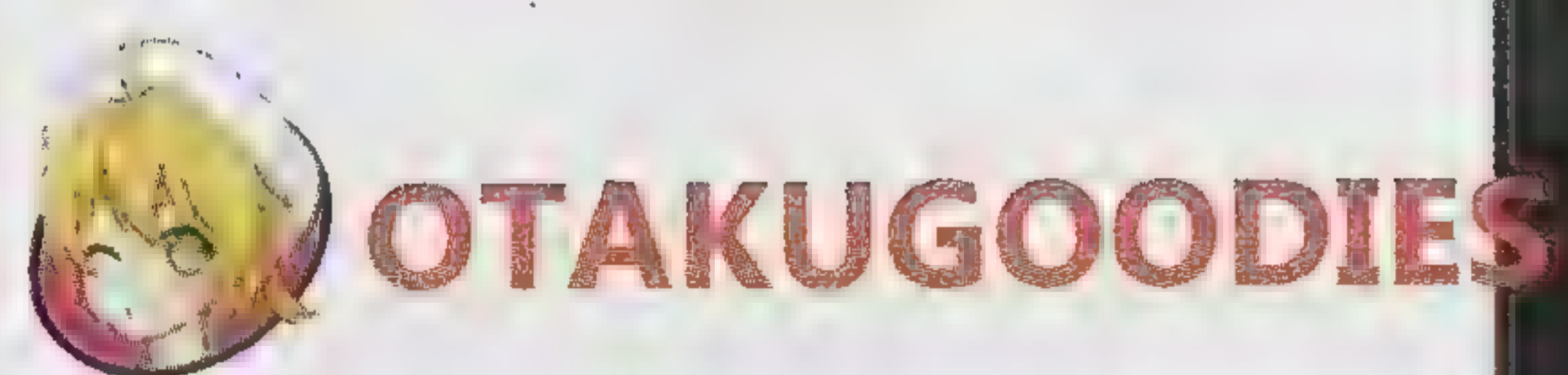
pass this movie up? Well, me, almost. Since I don't usually watch MMFF entries because of its history of approving film franchises of lackluster quality, I almost let this year pass by until they made an uproar when they chose indie films.



Just like Marty, who took a long time to move forward with his relationship, the film under Direk Avid and his team has proven that quality takes a long time, a lot of effort and many hardships.

If you watched the movie, tell us~ or wait for its television release or hopefully, a DVD release! Make it come true by donating to [savingsally.com](http://savingsally.com)!



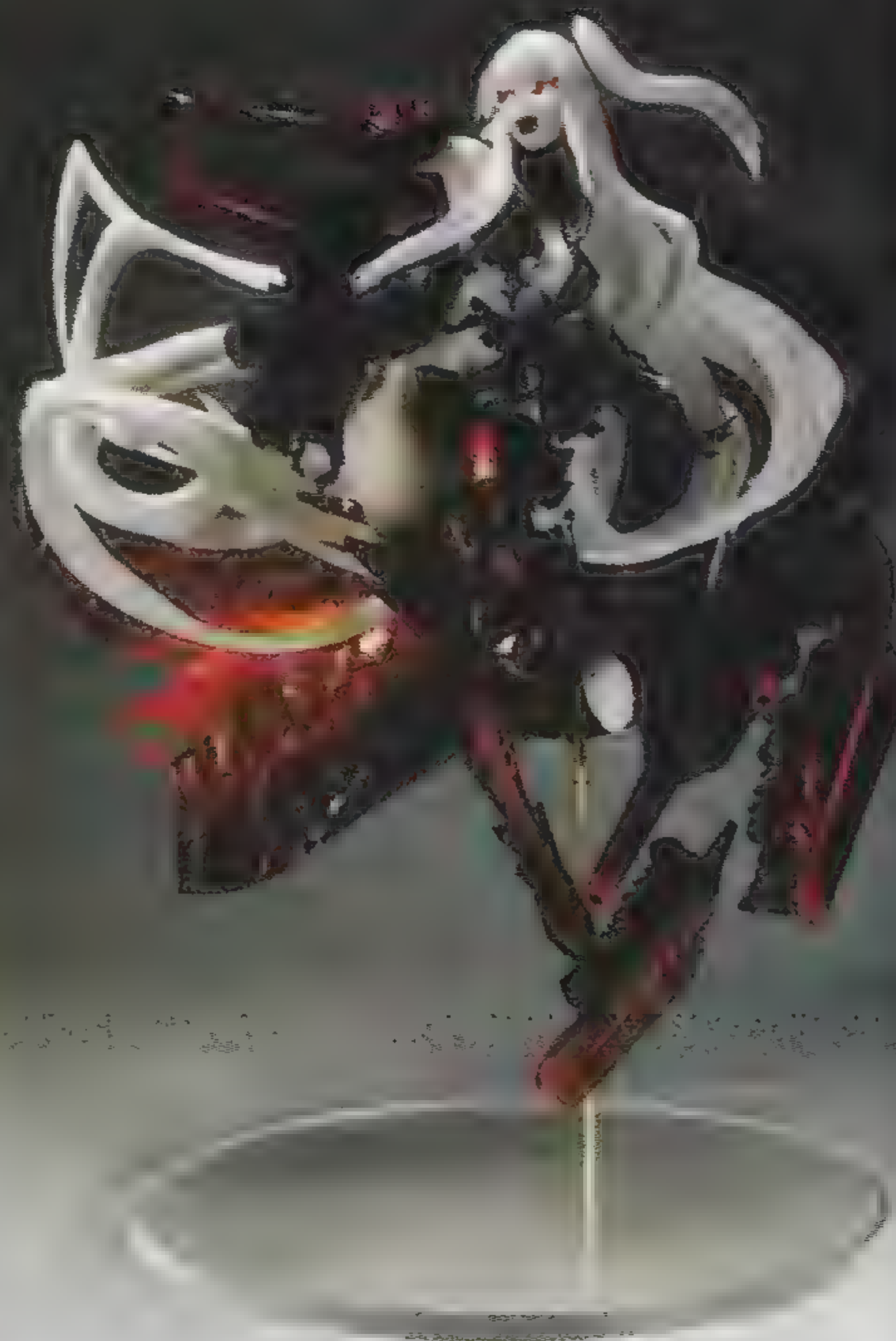


# AIRCRAFT CARRIER PRINCESS

"Did you think... you have won?  
That's cute!"

Kantai Collection (Kancolle) is an anime on anthropomorphize Japanese navy vessels. Kuubosei-Ki (Kuboseki in E2046) is a boss enemy in the game. She is an Abyssal Standard Carrier.

One thing I am biased about Kancolle is the white haired characters which are the enemies. Admittedly, I have not played the game and am not planing to but their character designs and the popularity of the anime made us want to get into the fandom as well.



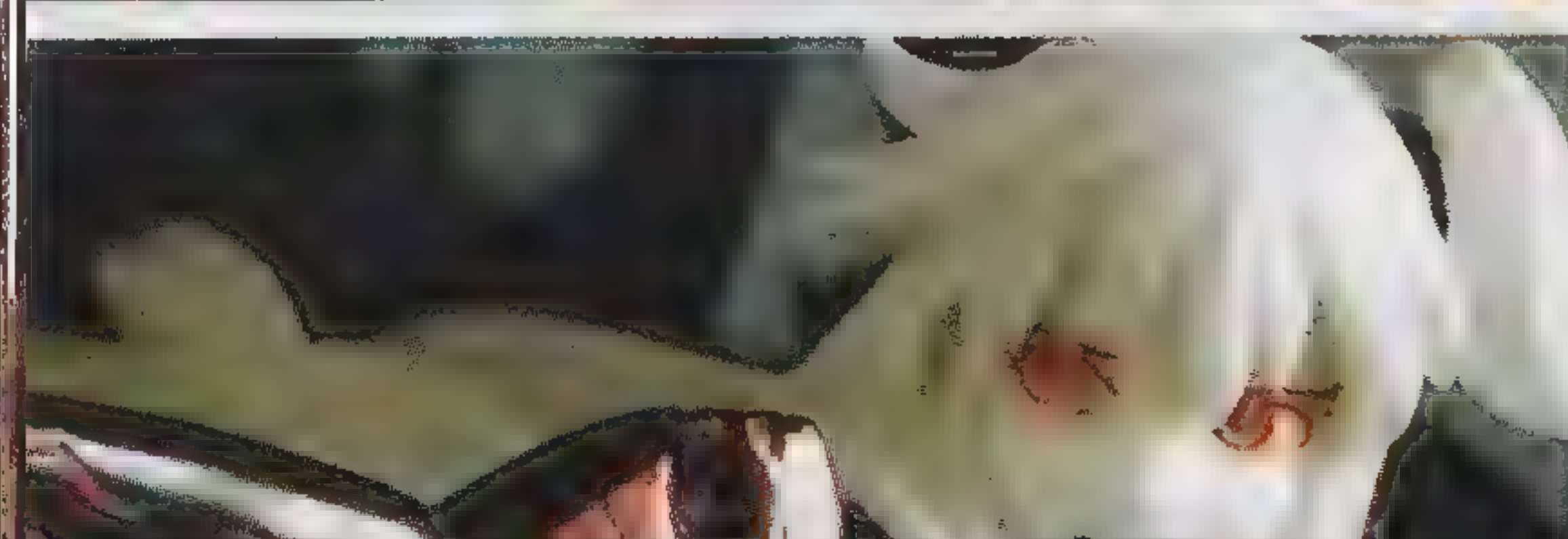
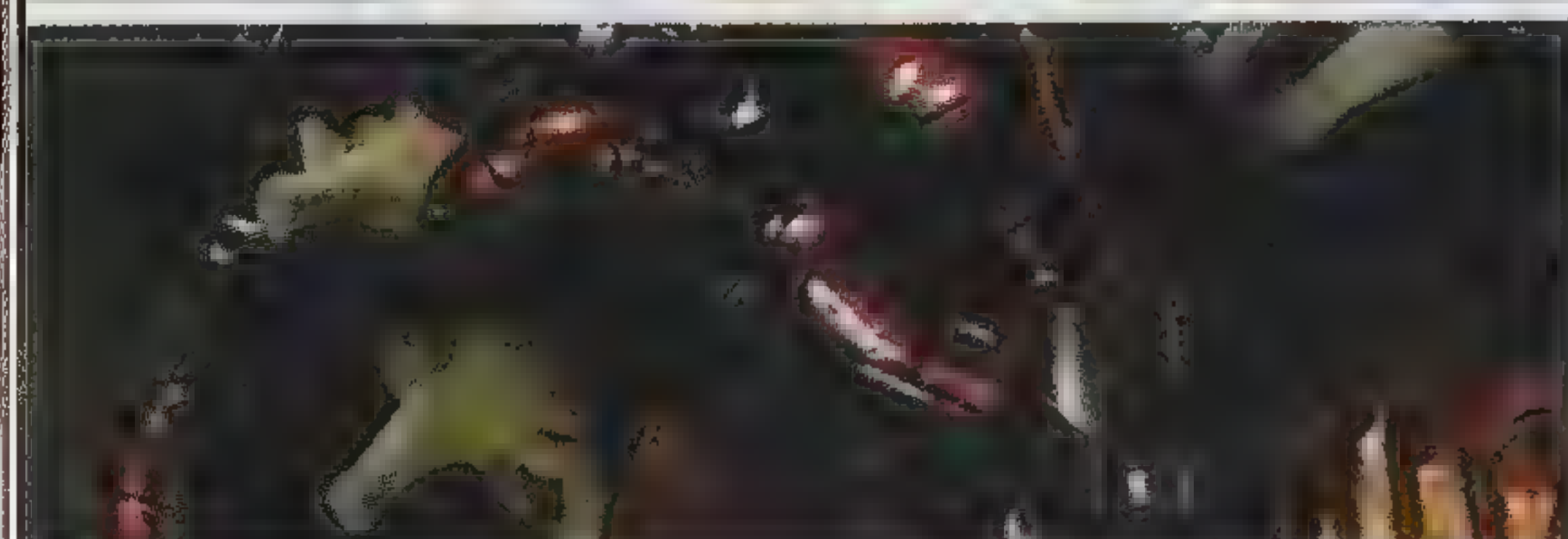
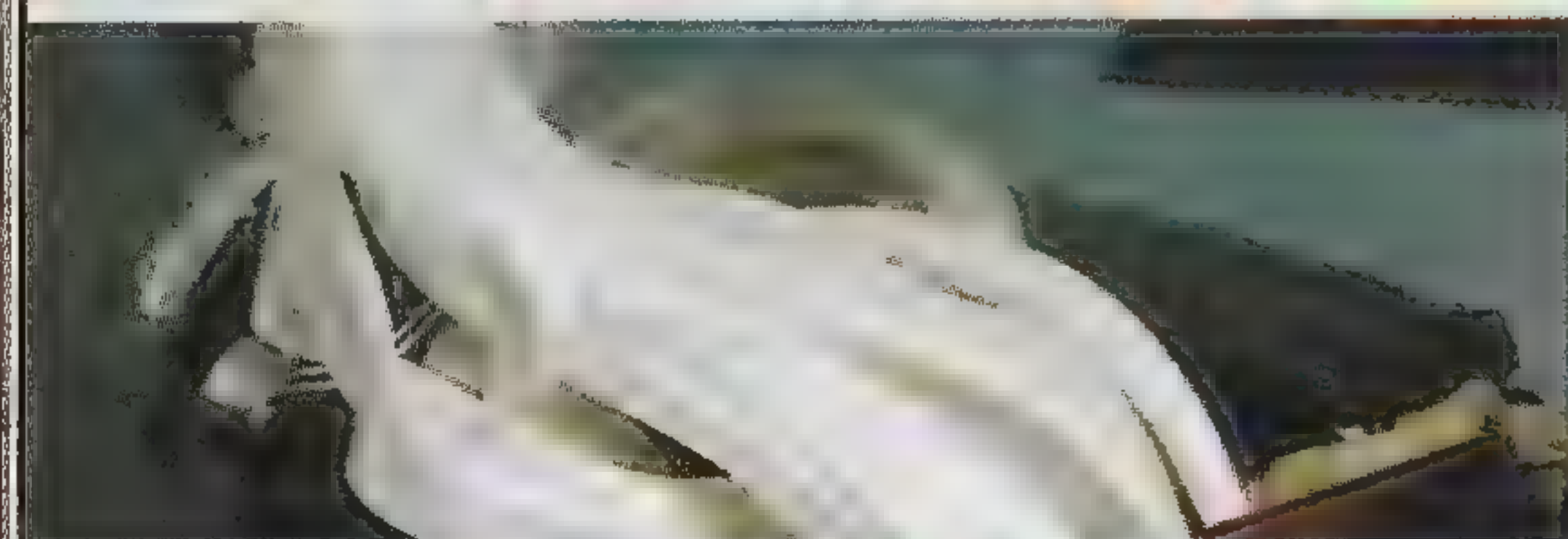
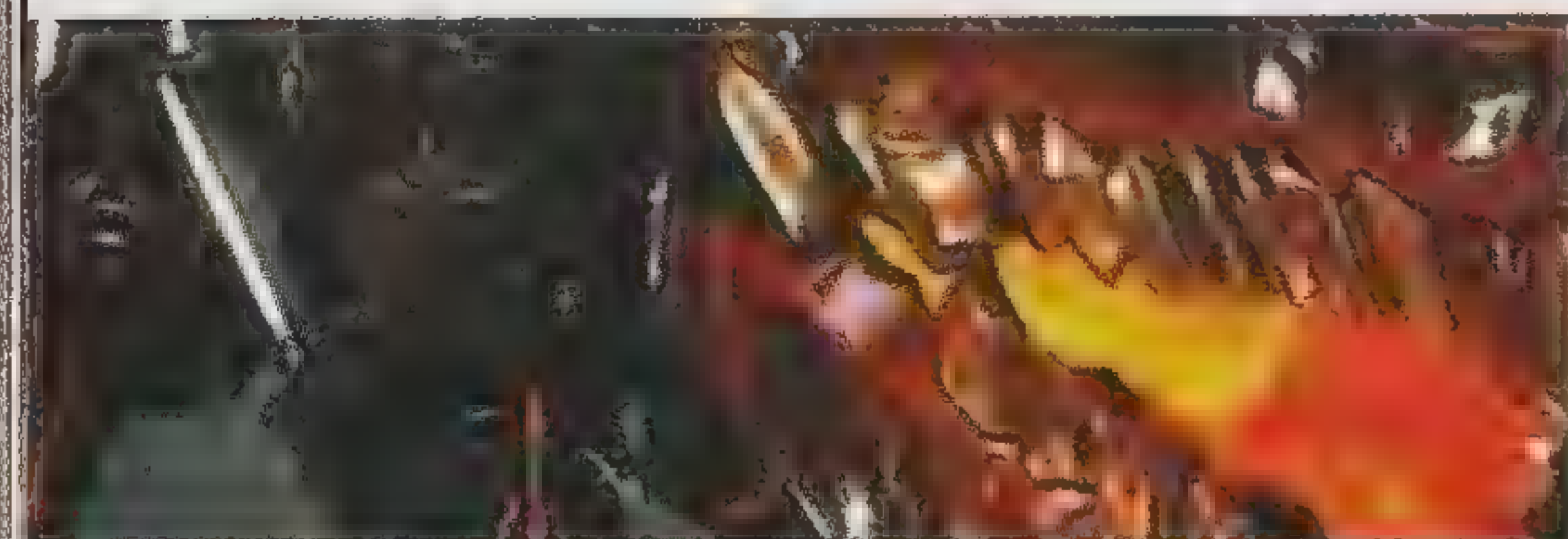
Product Number: FG8924  
Series: Kantai Collection  
Height: 17.00 cm  
Weight: 0.79 kg  
Parts: 52

**Sculpting**  
Her difference with Yamato is that she is a baddie and baddies are almost always more detailed, shiny and intense. Kancolle's enemy ships would almost always have a mind of its own so this one is spewing out fire.

No special base though but you gotta admire the design makes it look like she's midair~

**Painting**  
As I've said, I love white characters and for this one, even her skin is white! With a GK, this might be a double edge sword. Easy flesh color (no highlights needed.) but look at the paint job needed for the machine! WHOA

**Price**  
Just like the Yamato, she is standing good under-P 5000 range and that should make you want her even more. Smaller kits could cost even more.

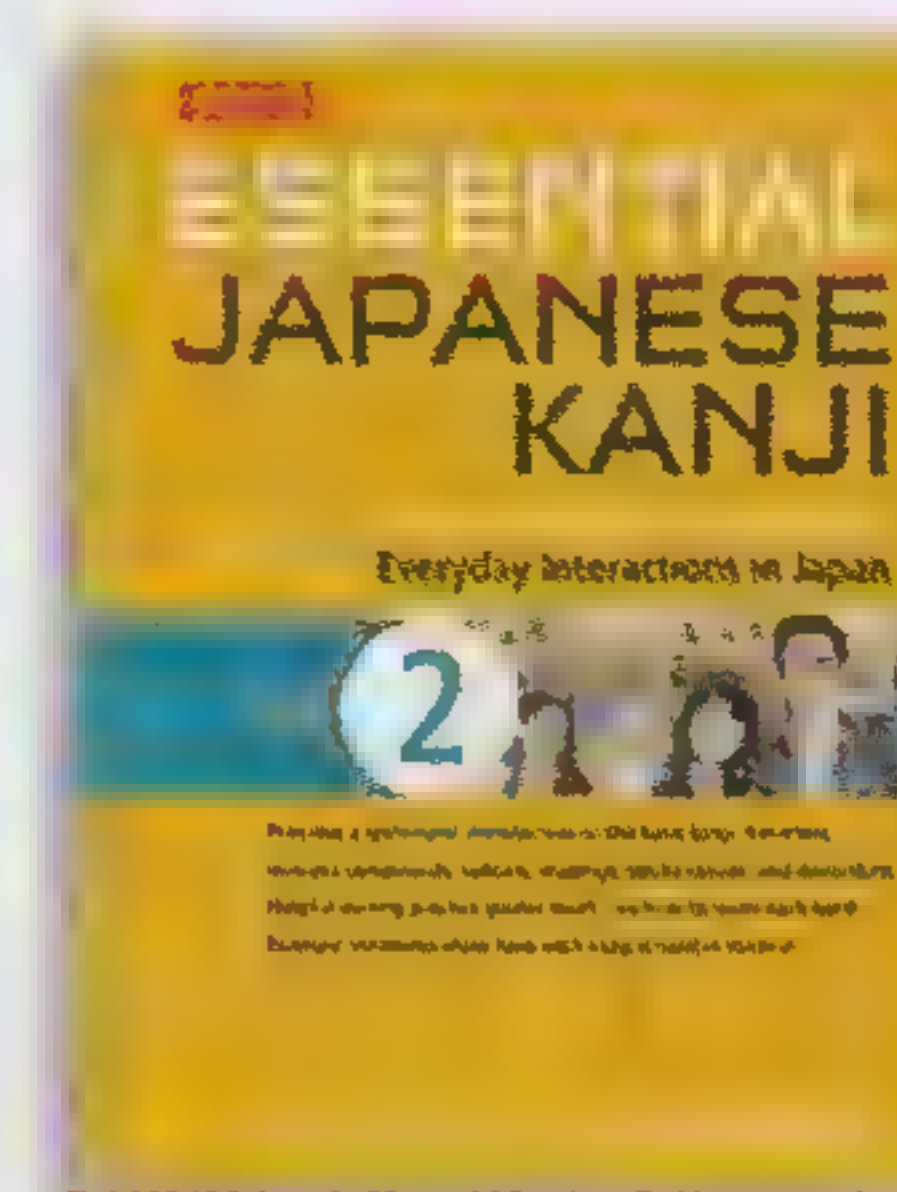


TUTTLE

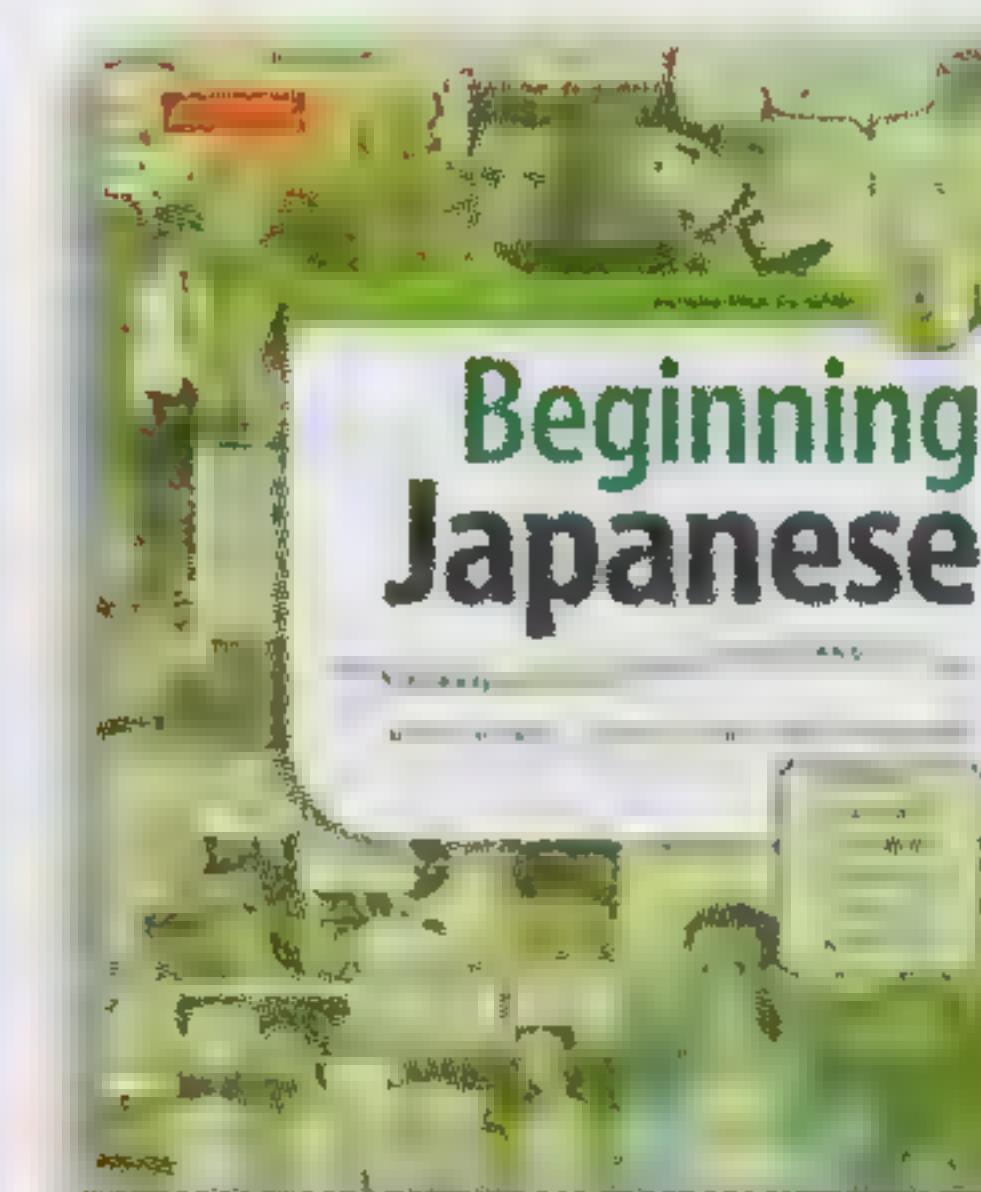
SEPTEMBER NEW RELEASES



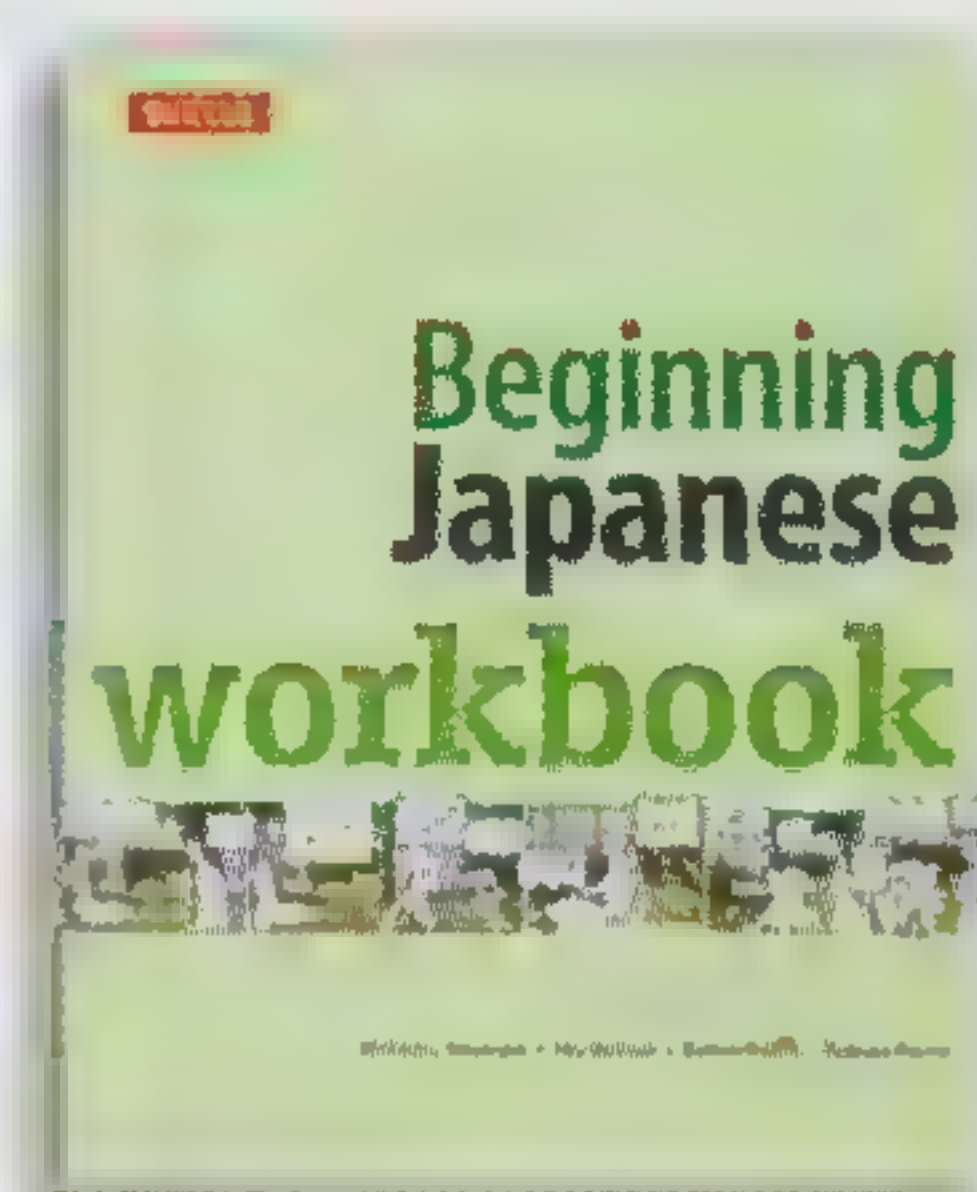
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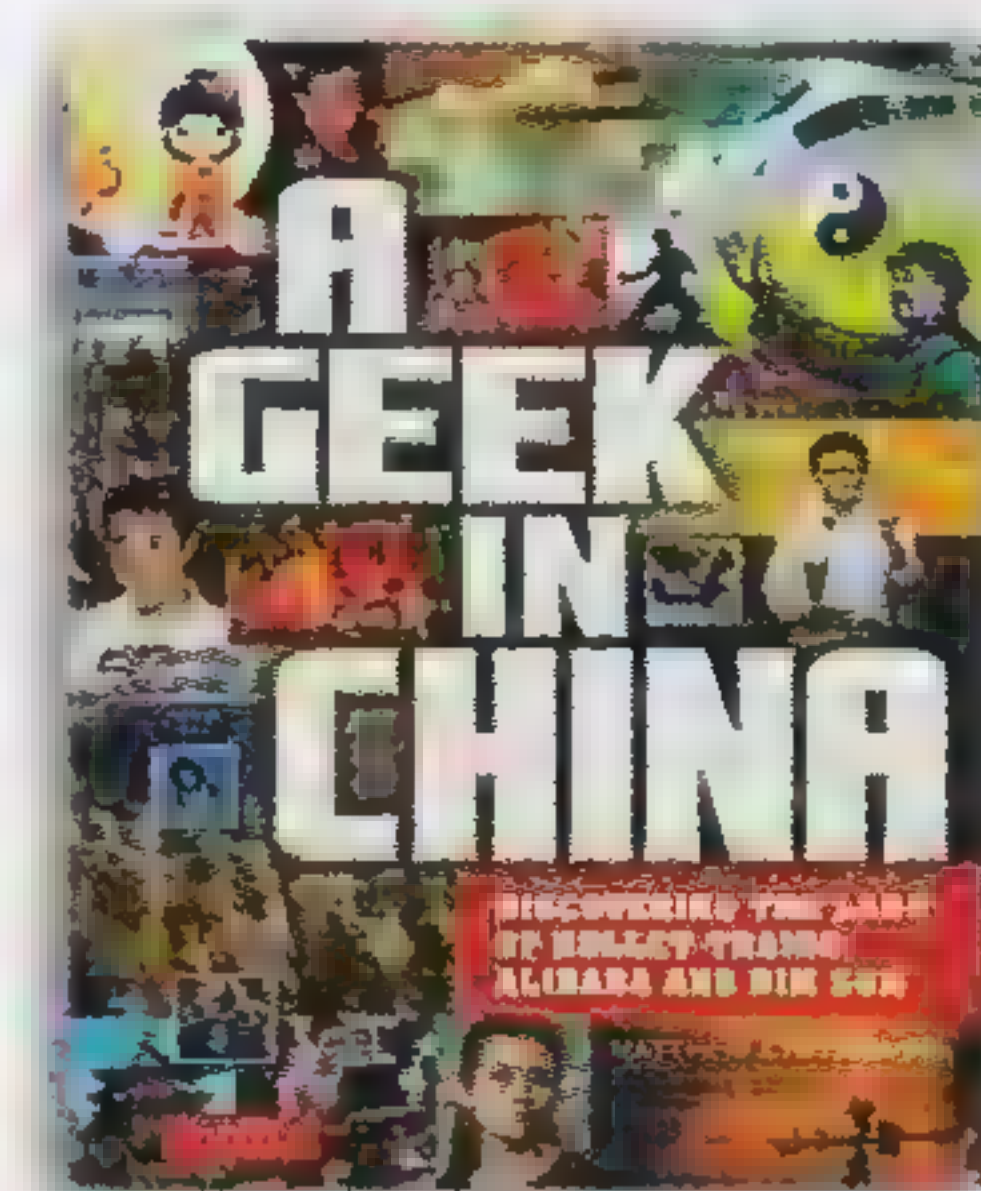
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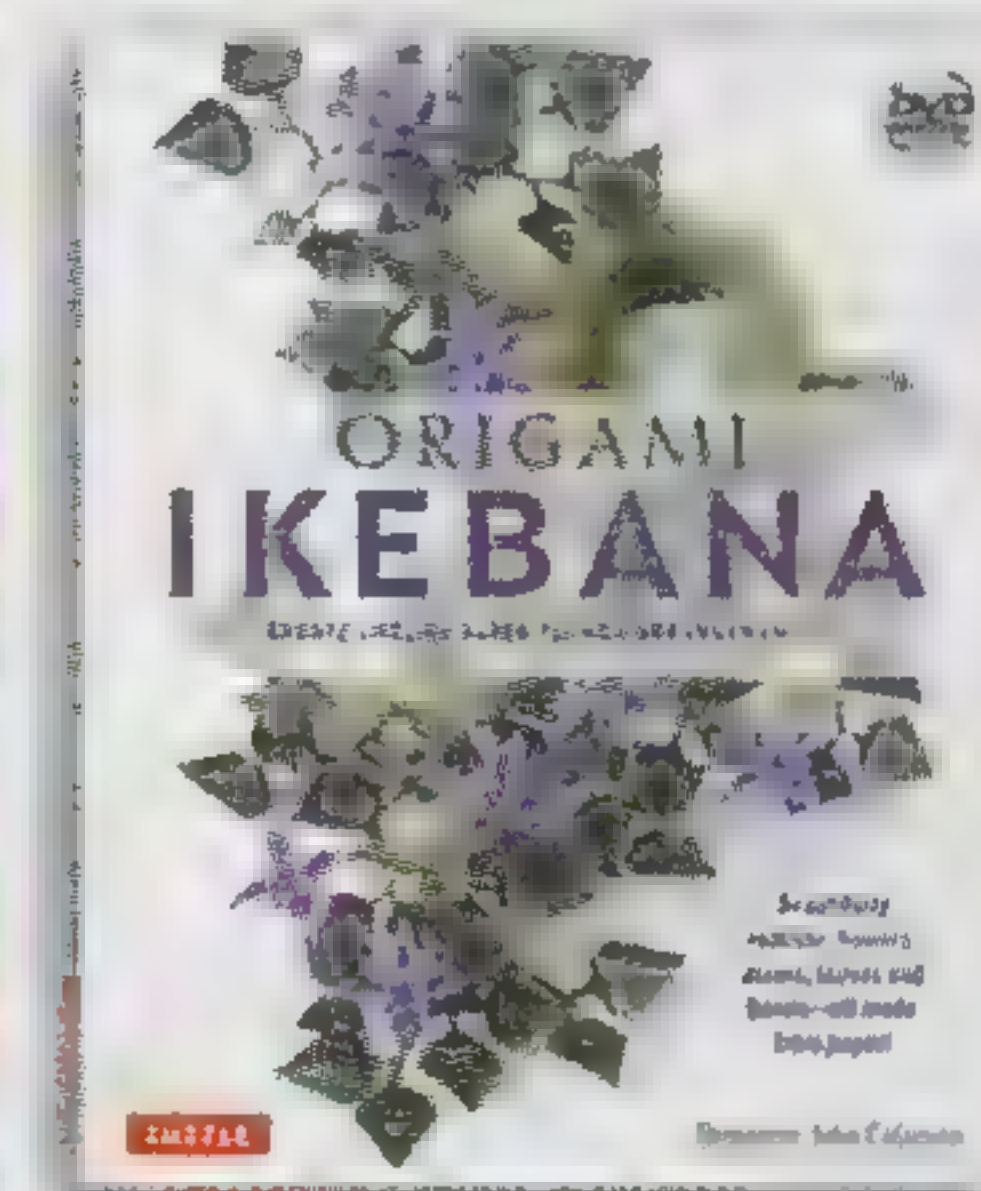
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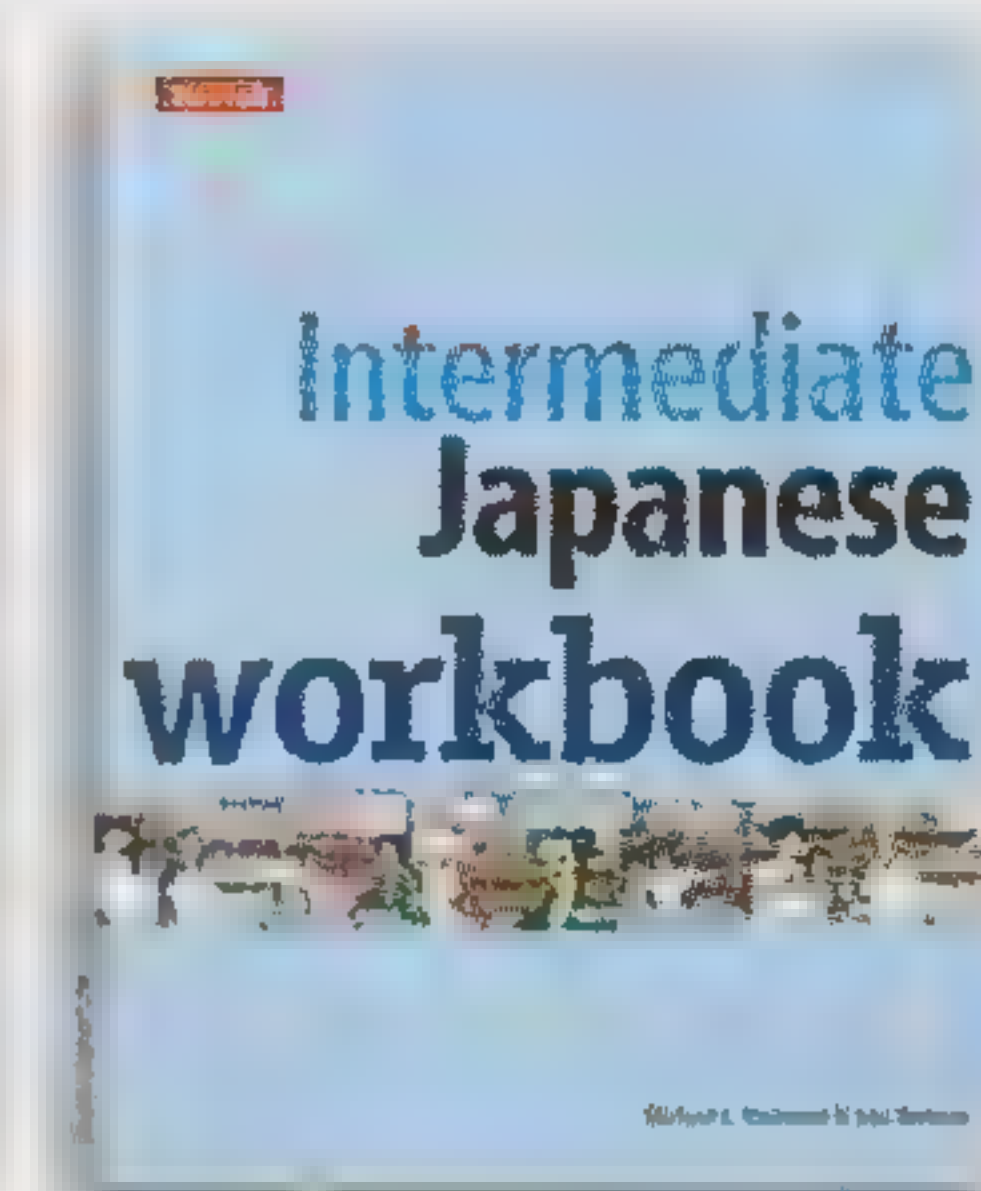
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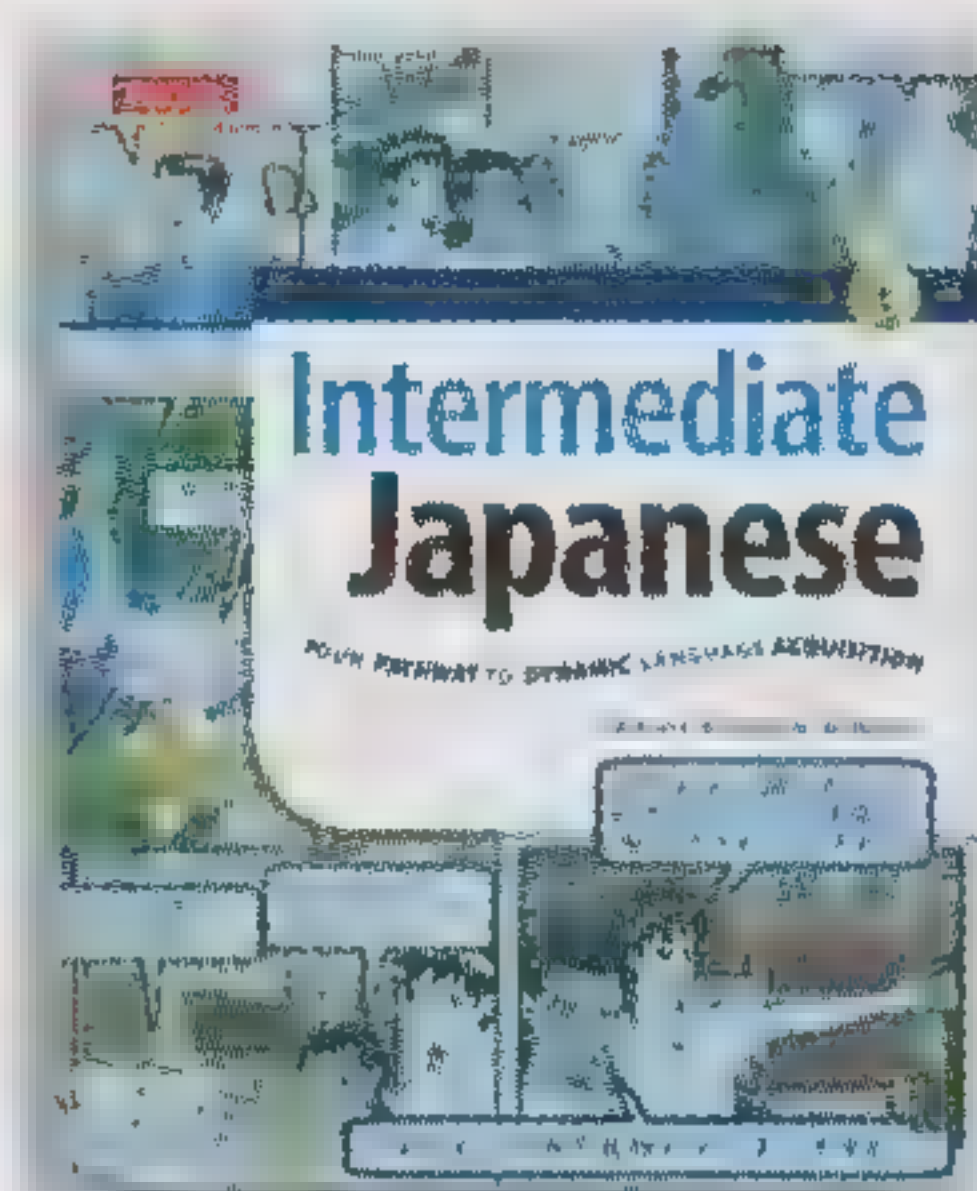
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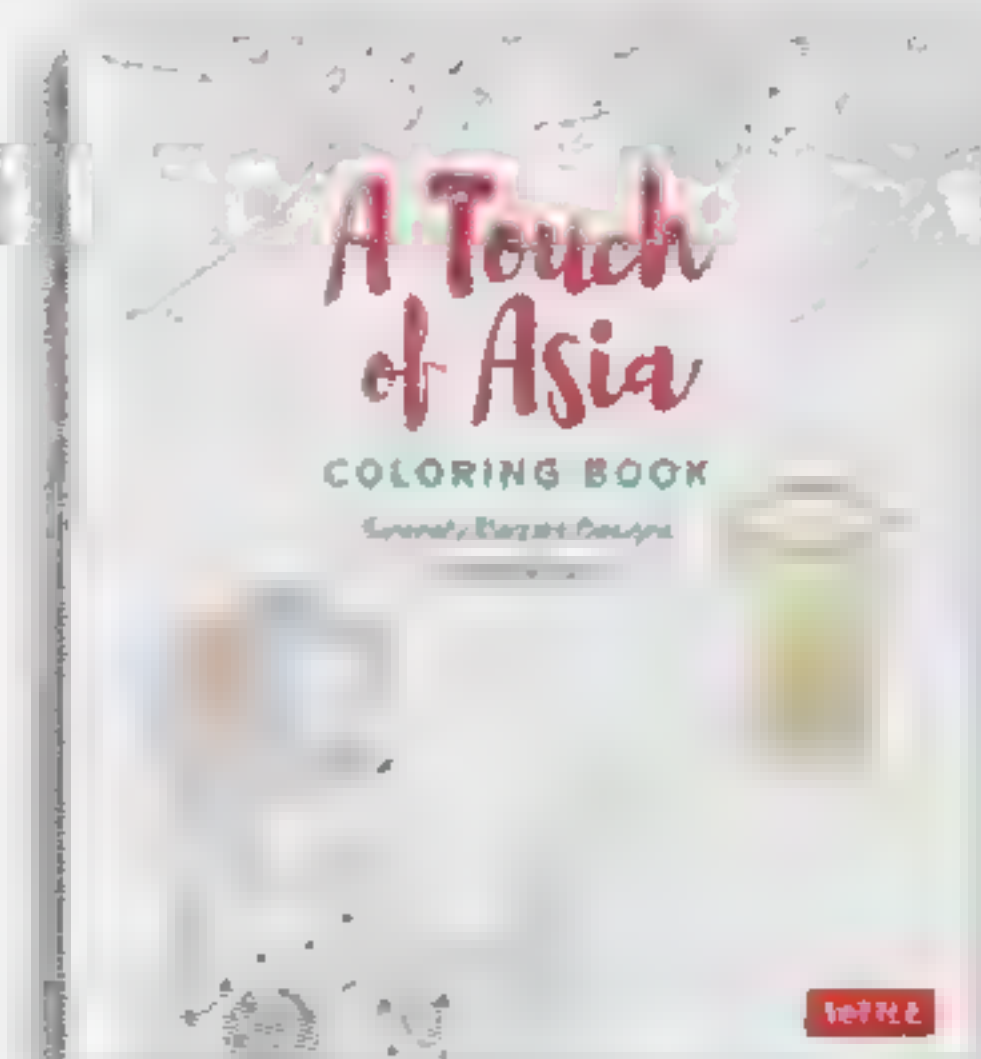
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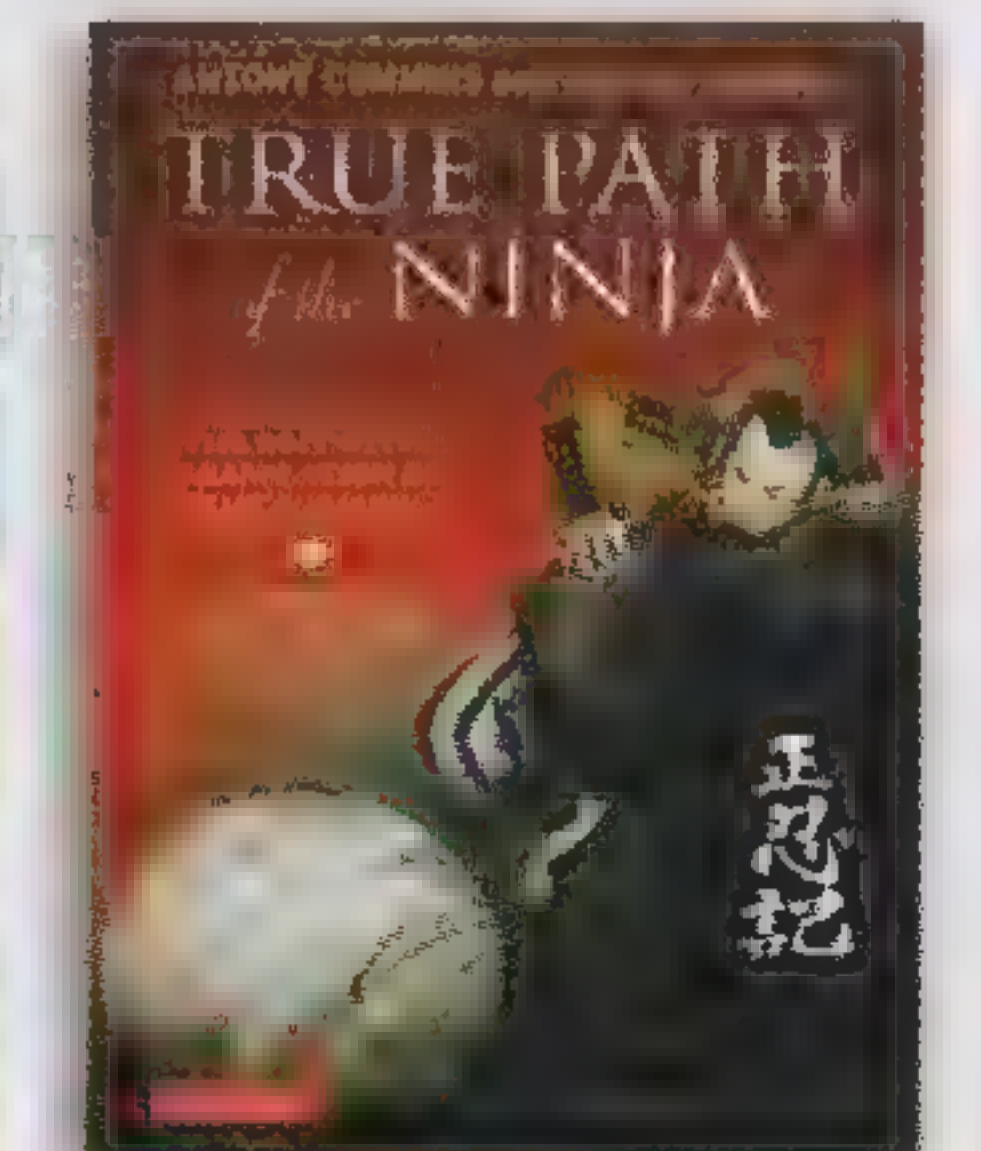
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US\$6.95 / S\$9.50  
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Order Quantity:





# BENTO BOX

by lizac 3.0



Sometimes, Yuri!!! on Ice, Arashi, and EXO have the same fans no matter how exceedingly different you think these fandoms are. If you happen to like anime, J-pop, and K-pop, you might want to go to this store in Maginhawa St. and enjoy a one-of-a-kind treat.

## THREE FANDOMS ROLLED INTO ONE: NOW YOU'RE STARRY-EYED!

Red Monster Shop + Café is a multi-fandom store where you can find anime, Japanese and Korean items while enjoying a Japanese or Korean meal. Red Monster Shop + Café opened its revamped store in November 2016 in Maginhawa St., a popular place for cheap eats and cafes with unique concepts.

It is a twenty-seater café with ten tables to choose from. For the anime display tables, figmas and gashapons are enclosed in the glass. For the J-pop and K-pop tables, photobooks, magazines, and bromides are on display. Basically, the store is packed of merchandise from different fandoms and they are displayed neatly in every corner.



On your left from the entrance, you will find anime merchandise such as Haikyuu!!, Free!, Kuroko no Basket, Yowamushi Pedal, and Touken Ranbu. On the right, J-pop and K-pop items are on display, mostly of Arashi, NEWS, EXO and other groups that YG Entertainment handles. In every corner, different printed shirts and merchandise are ready for purchase. The LED TV on the wall usually shows K-pop videos, but you can make a request from the admin to play the video that you like.

While taking pictures or watching, you may enjoy a Korean meal like Kimchi Fried Rice. If your mood dictates Japanese, you can have katsudon, tonkatsu, omurice, or other Japanese meals available on their menu. Most of the drinks and shakes are anime references, an example of which is Viktuuri drink for P130.

The meals and drinks are already a treat, but the displays on tables are the icing on top. I had to experience this myself, so I chose the Haikyuu!! table.



I ordered omurice without catsup at the time, which costs P150. As for the drinks, I ordered Rolling Thunder, a peach flavored blended drink for P120. It is based on Nishinoya Yuu's trademark move as Karasuno's libero.

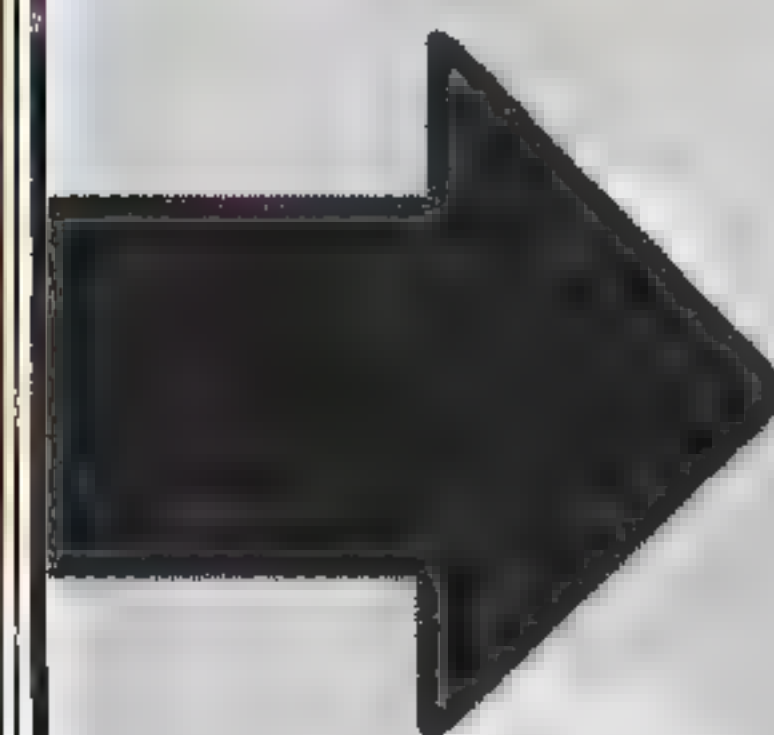
**Serving:** I personally think each meal is good for two people due to the generous amount of serving. If you are on a diet, bring a friend to share it with you. However, if you are on splurge, this is more than enough!

**Price range and affordability:** Expect to spend around P250 to P350 for one meal.  
**Quality:** Good! Try katsudon and tonkatsu.



Red Monster Shop + Café  
Unit C2 3rd floor, Luisa Building 2, 107 Maginhawa St.,  
Diliman, Quezon City.  
[facebook.com/redmonstershop.ph](https://facebook.com/redmonstershop.ph)





Listening to anime opening themes is known to be a fast cure to relieve sadness. It makes you feel hyped even for just a short period of time. Most sports anime themes specifically, have an inspiring feel to them that makes you want to do your best whenever you hear them, and Haikyuu!! has got its fair share of this.

# BURN OUTS YNDR OMES



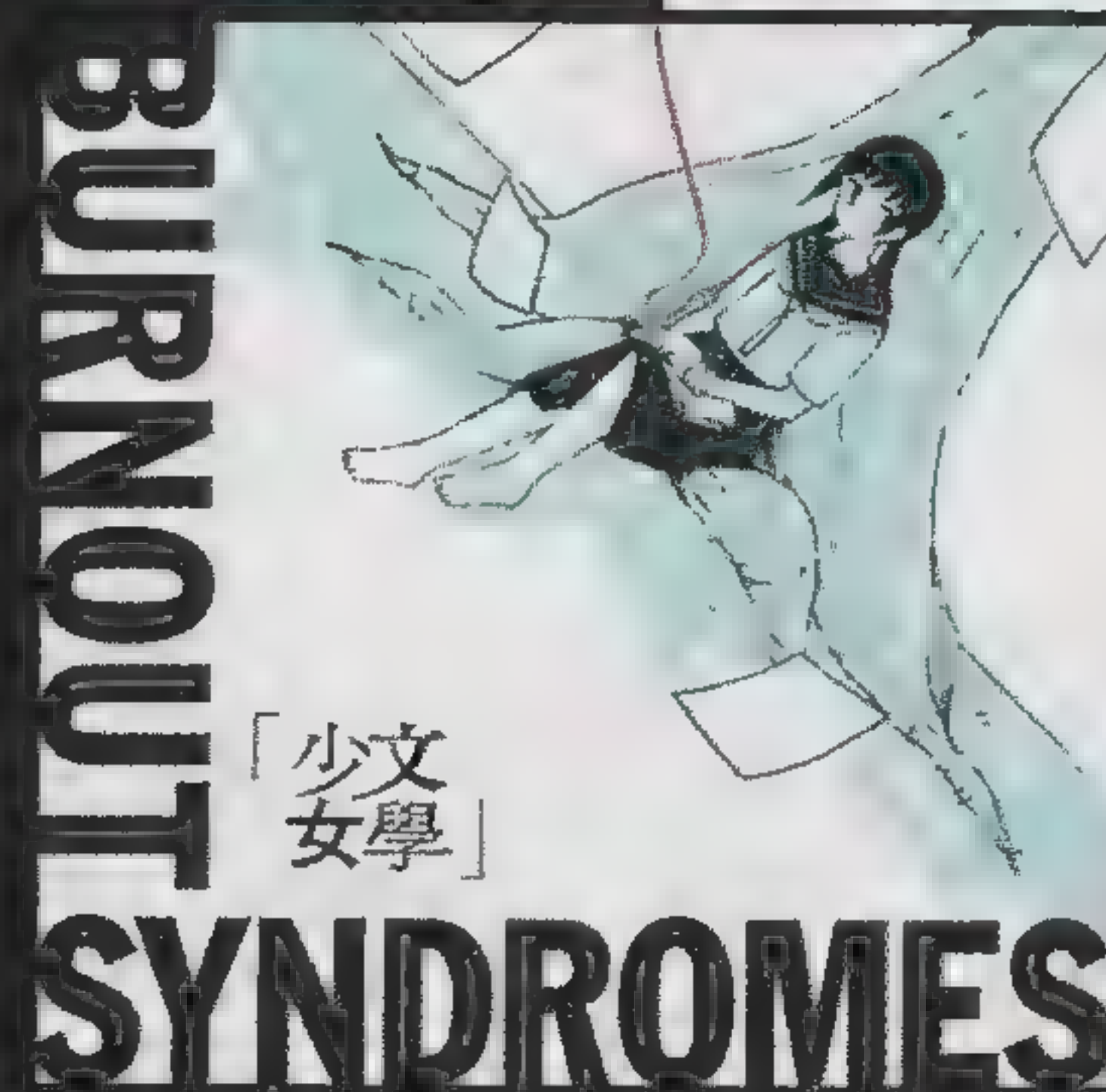
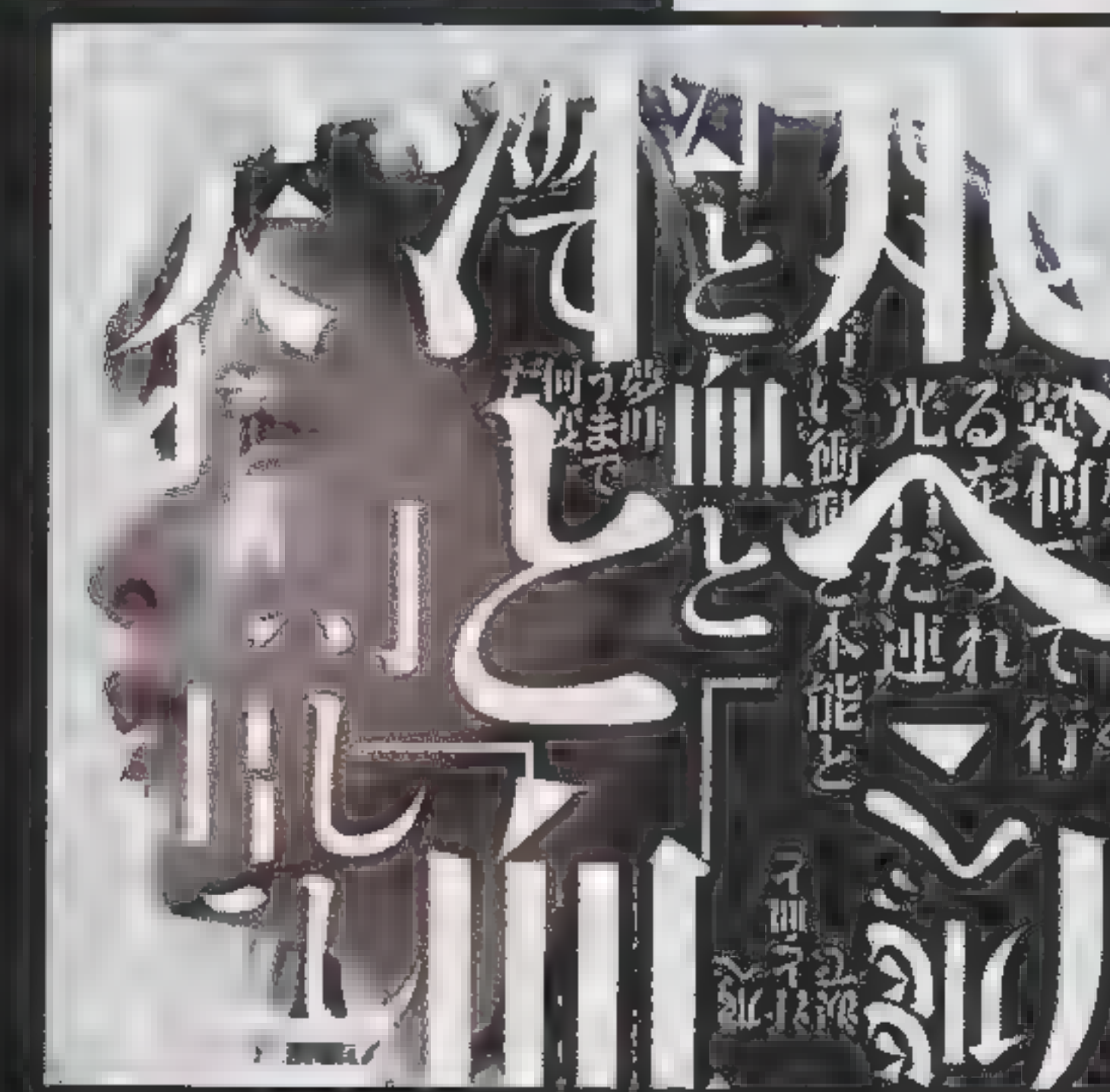
The Japanese rock band Burnout Syndromes provided two opening themes for Haikyuu!! seasons two and three respectively. Burnout Syndromes hails from Kansai and has been active in the music industry since 2005. However, it was only in 2014 when they released their first studio album that contains eight tracks. The band is composed of three members: Kazuumi Kumagai on vocals/guitar, Taiyu Ishikawa on bass/chorus, and Takuya Hirose on drums/chorus.

The trademark of the band's songs for Haikyuu!! is the catchphrase in the chorus that always has a high tune. Season two's FLY HIGH!! is widely appreciated because of the lyrics to be fly high which means fly, fly high. In the third season, Hikari Are is the phrase that pulls this song to the audience, meaning there will be light. Do take note that if you are going to use these two catchphrases on a status update or a tweet, they are meant to be typed in all caps, no questions asked! It will make you feel good and invincible, exactly how Hinata feels when he sees the other side of the court from above.



Another notable characteristic of Burnout Syndromes' songs is the country vibes. Although the songs lean more toward J-rock, the vocalist gives off the feeling that this is not your typical mainstream rock music. Kumagai's semi-yodeling in between the stanzas and chorus shows the songs' conservative side despite the loud sound of drums. Their songs are softer than the usual J-rock songs you know. This means a lot for the main volleyball team Karasuno, whose members are all from Miyagi prefecture. Like Burnout Syndromes who have roots in a prefecture away from the bustling city of Tokyo, Karasuno members are also not your city boys.

The lyrics that Burnout Syndromes have provided for these two songs mesh well with the anime's message: never give up, do your best, and fly high for your dreams. Haikyuu!! continues to be an awe-inspiring sports anime through the songs used in it, and not only because of the characters' motivations. Burnout Syndromes has greatly contributed to Haikyuu!!'s success in its second and third seasons.



BURNOUT  
SYNDROMES



# HIKARI ARE

## BURNOUT SYNDROMES

### HAIKYUU!! SEASON 3

#### OPENING THEME



Karada juu no saibou ni o okosu you ni  
Meippai ni kuuki wo suikonda  
Chi to ase o nie ni akogare o seika ni  
Furu boryuumu de sakebe yo

Hikari are  
Mirai e no inori o aizu ni start o kiru

Hikari are  
Yuke yami o kassoro ni shite  
Onore no michi o keiken ni kakero  
Hikari are  
Issun saki no zetsubou e  
Nisun saki no eikou o shinjite

Hikari are  
Daichi o keruriryuu wa tada hitotsu  
Hikari are  
Motto mabayuku ore wa toberu  
Hikari are  
Kimi no kyou no kagayaki ga  
Mayoeru tomo no ashita wo  
Terasu yo

Yume juujika no you ni seoi  
Eden o mezasu senshi tachi ni

Sobie tatsu kabe ni fuan kurau mamono ni  
Kibou to yuu kazaana ugatsu no wa  
Wazuka na kanousei shinji nuku yuuki da  
Furu boryuumu de sakebe yo

Hikari are  
Yuke kage to hohaba awase  
Onore to tatakau hibi ni sachi are  
Magarazu kusezu risou o oitsuzukeru  
Sono kakugo o hikari to yobou

Hikari are  
Yuke yami o kassoro ni shite  
Onore no michi o keiken ni kakero  
Hikari are  
Issun saki no zetsubou e  
Nisun saki no eikou o shinjite

Hikari are  
Tenkuu kakeru nagareboshi wa konya  
Inochi o shokubai ni moue  
Hikari are  
Kimi no kyou no kagayaki ga  
Mayoeru tomo no ashita o terasu you

Mirai e no inori o aizu ni hibuta o kiryu

Mugendai no yume juujika no you ni seoi  
Eden o mezasu senshitachi ni hikari are



**COSMIC BYTES**  
COSPLAY SHOP

FOR ALL YOUR COSPLAY NEEDS!

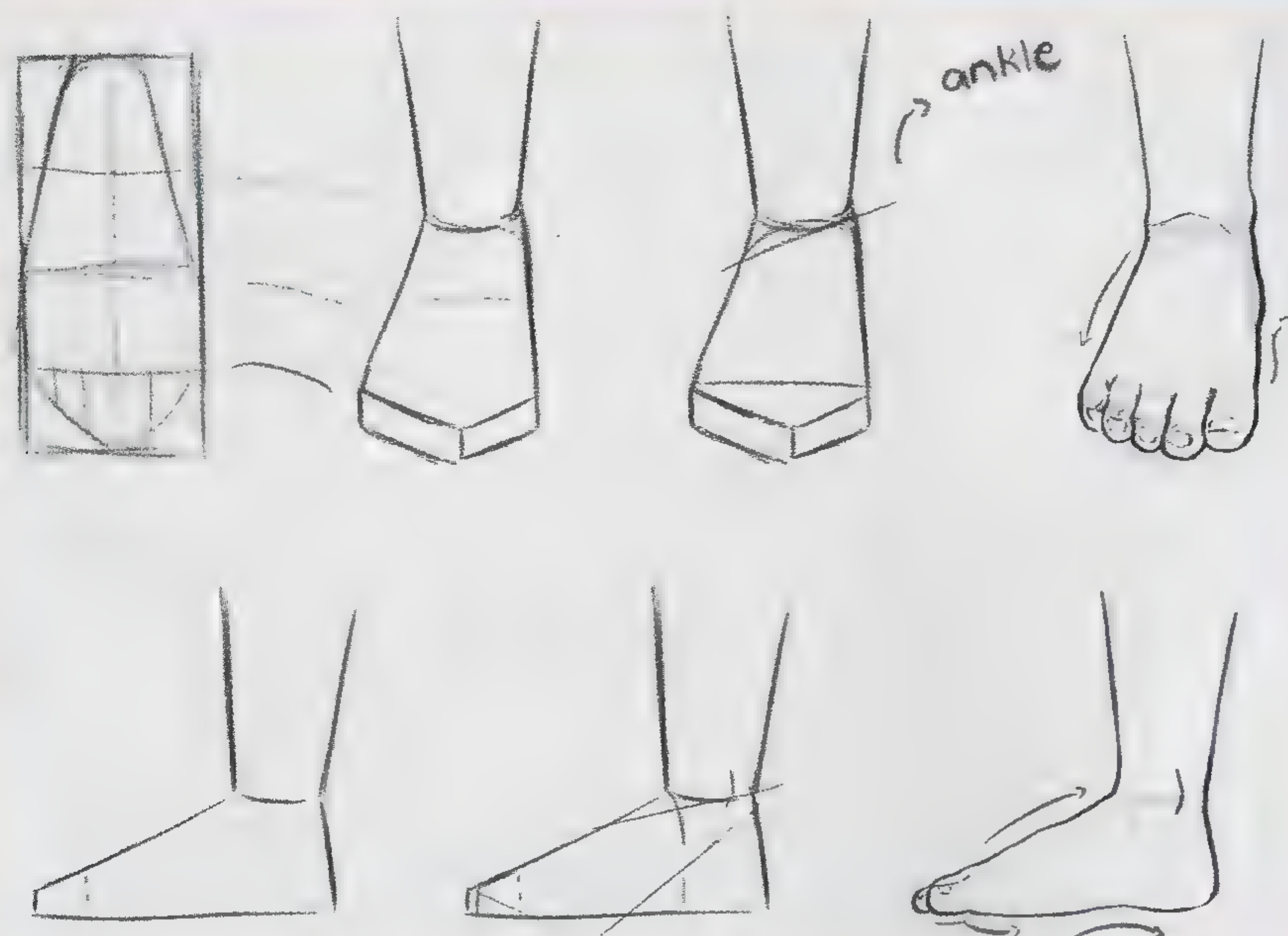
facebook.com/cosmicbytes.cosplayshop  
09178373710 | 09178373709 | 09475261157  
cosmic.bytes@yahoo.com





# FEET & SHOES TUTORIAL

Hello guys! In this issue, I'll teach you how to draw foot and shoes. They are very important; it can be expressive as the character's face so don't hide these parts!



Starting with a simple shape, it's like drawing a wedge slice of cheese. Then I added some guidelines where we will put the ankle and fingers. For the fingers, usually the smallest one can bend differently than other fingers. Also remember tht our foot have curve shape, not straight lnes! We just used concrete shape for our guidelines and for us to be familiar on foot structure.



Foot fingers have different sizes. The biggest toe is always the widest but not always the longest.



Now that we are familiar with the feet structure, let's move on how to draw shoes! This is the most common type of it. First, let's draw the wedge guideline again then add the shape of your desired shoe. If you're going to draw a shoe with a heel, incline it a little depending how high youe heel is gonna be. Below are other sketches I made on different perspective.







# OTAKULIFE HACKS

## APPS THAT I USE RIGHT NOW



by kanddy

For a very long time (two years), I was using a Samsung Galaxy Star Duos that could only do so much. It was a small thing where I can't play anything nor take photos I'd be proud of. It did serve its purpose as a phone but it wasn't smart. So now that I have my new phone, I crowdsourced for apps and here are the ones I eventually downloaded:

### Dictionaries like Wordweb, Merriam-Webster and Bravolol

This is a must. As an editor, I fail to see any reason why one should not have a proper dictionary on their phone. If you are the type who wants to learn Nihongo, English-Nihongo dictionaries are also available online.

Price: Most dictionaries are free. Some would have premium versions for a small price.



### Communications apps like LINE, Viber and Messenger

Free messages is everything. My load is now only for data. These apps could have already been pre downloaded on most smart phones and you only have to register an account, connect it to your SIM number and whoa~

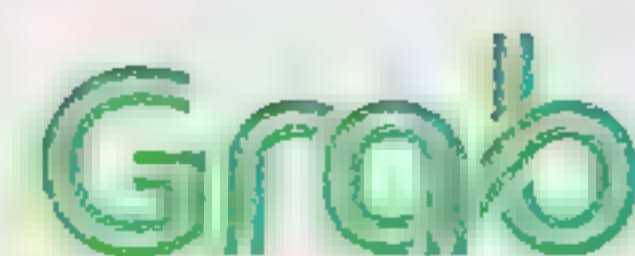
Price: One again, free. However, there will be additional charges for things like stickers.



### Transportation apps like Grab, Uber, Waze and Sakay.ph

Sakay.ph has not failed me the way that Google Maps has so I've actually never opened the latter. These apps will save you the time looking where the next anime event is. Also, Uber can sometimes be cheaper than Grab.

Price: Free to download but please pay your driver. Be safe out there and don't get lost.



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otakuasia

Social Media apps like Facebook, Instagram and Twitter

Basic stuff and maybe even predownloaded on your phones. Please follow us!

Price: Free

### Apps like Saiko+, Cosplanner, MangaZone and Crunchyroll

Meet new friends, plan your next costume, read a manga and watch anime. All at the same time. No don't but I almost cried when I downloaded my first manga. Now I can be one of those people on the train reading manga...

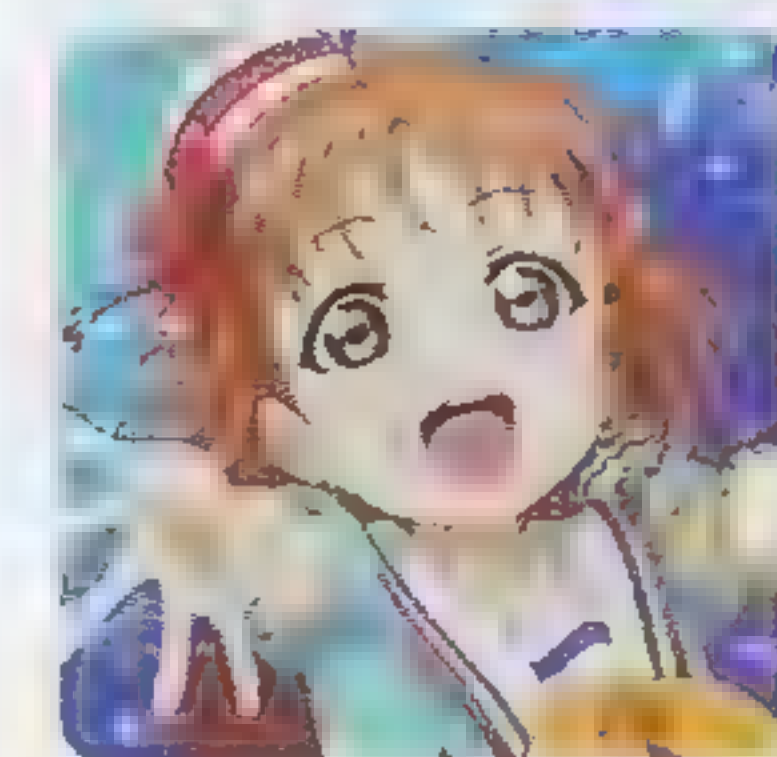
Price: Free app. Support the author by buying the manga. I heard Eiwa Manga has Handa-kun.



### Games like Pokemon Go, Neko Atsume, School Idol Festival and QooApp

Don't judge me, I did not have a phone to play with when Pokemon Go came out so I will never understand why ya'll quit. Neko Atsume is old but gold and their live action movie adaptation will be the best. I have embraced SIF hell. QooApp is the window to Japanese apps. Go explore.

Price: The price is your life. You will get addicted.



### Apps like Spotify, Booky, Google Calendar and Kanahei Account Book

I don't even know how we got here but these are some apps that I use on the daily for updates and organization. Especially the Kanahei Account Book which keeps me from spending too much.

Price: Premium services for Spotify might cost you, otherwise, everything is free.

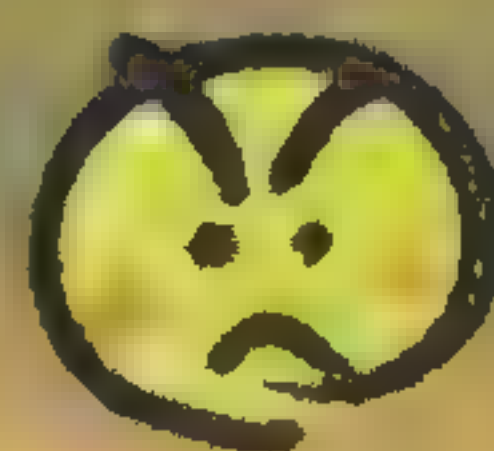






# JAPANESE RESTAURANTS TO TRY

by kandy



GENKI SUSHI

Three words: Conveyor belt sushi. A train of mouth watering sushi is always a good option. Their tables even have a built in hot water dispensers for the unlimited matcha tea powder.

Where: BGC Stopover, Taguig and The 30th, Pasig

Try the: Kanikama Handroll, Cheese Fries, Seared Salmon with Black Pepper Nigiri and Genki Roll.

OGAWA

They go for the vibe of traditional setting and atmosphere. Their interior is the best I've seen for a Japanese Restaurant in Manila. Their staff are in cute pink uniform and the food fresh, clean and quality.

Where: 2/F The Fort Strip, BGC Taguig  
Try the: Teppan Lobster Gozen for the expensive tastes and Kaisen Chirashi Sushi Zen for the bento lovers.

DOHTONBORI

There is no way a make-your-own-okonomiyaki can go wrong. They made it to 2016's most booked restaurants in Booky. You will not regret coming here.

Where: 8Missouri, Greenhills, SM City North Edsa and SM Mall of Asia.

Try the: Okonomiyaki, Quatro Formaggi and Ramen Tonkotsu.

BOTEJYU

The pioneer of Japanese Okonomiyaki all the way from Osaka is here in the PH. "Botejyu" is the onomatopoeia for the sound you hear when cooking okonomiyaki.

Where: SM Mall of Asia

Try the: Amiyaki Pork Rice Bowl, The Takoyaki All-Star, Carbonara Yakiudon and their Premium Moonlight Okonomiyaki

I CHIBA JAPA

Inspired by the busy markets in Japan, this restaurant has ten food stations: Takoyaki, Gyoza, Tempura, Yakitori, Ramen, Donburi, the fresh market display, a live seafood market, fishing area and the Asahi Bar.

Where: Newport Mall Resorts Worls Manila  
Try the: Tempura, Calamares... actually, try everything! The market does not run out!!





## COSCOS MAKEUP FOR COSPLAYERS

by kandy

Last year, a company called Liberta, who specializes on beauty products, announced COSCOS as their new line of cosmetics for cosplayers. They haven't been available in the Philippines until recently through the online shop, Pastel Fox.

Their latest product is the FACE GLUE. It is used to help you stick a wig securely and help you make a hairstyle near to your character as you desire! It is removed by water so it causes less damage to both your wig and your skin.

The product is a little pricey but comes with quality. Their Foundations comes in different tones so you can perfectly cosplay your character!. I am most interested in trying out their lip concealer since normal concealers fade due to the moist lips. They will be available on events this 2017 so follow their page!



where  
props  
look like  
real  
weapons



Contact Person: Miko Garcia Twitter: /TheSw0rdMaster  
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Otaku  
A S I A

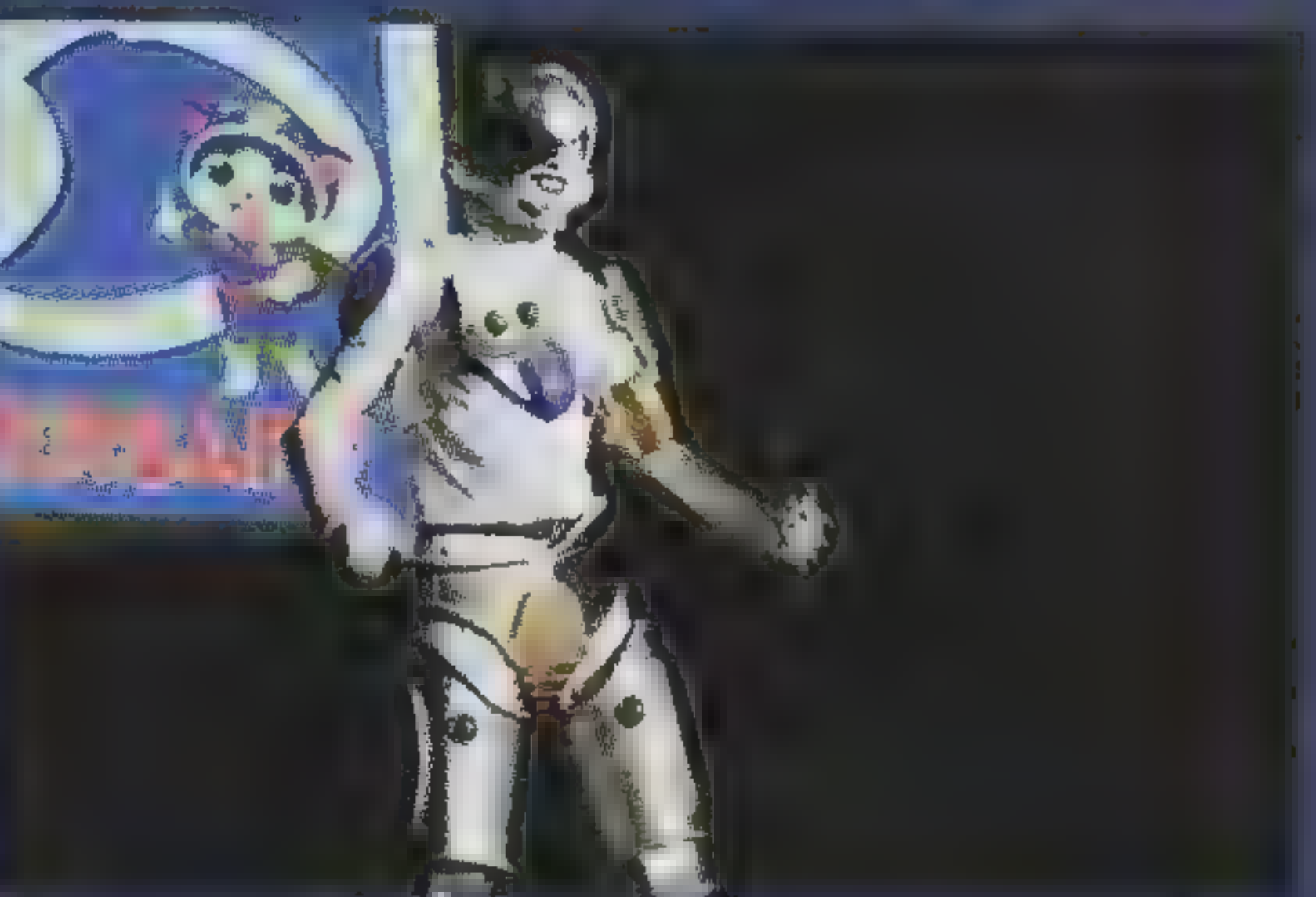
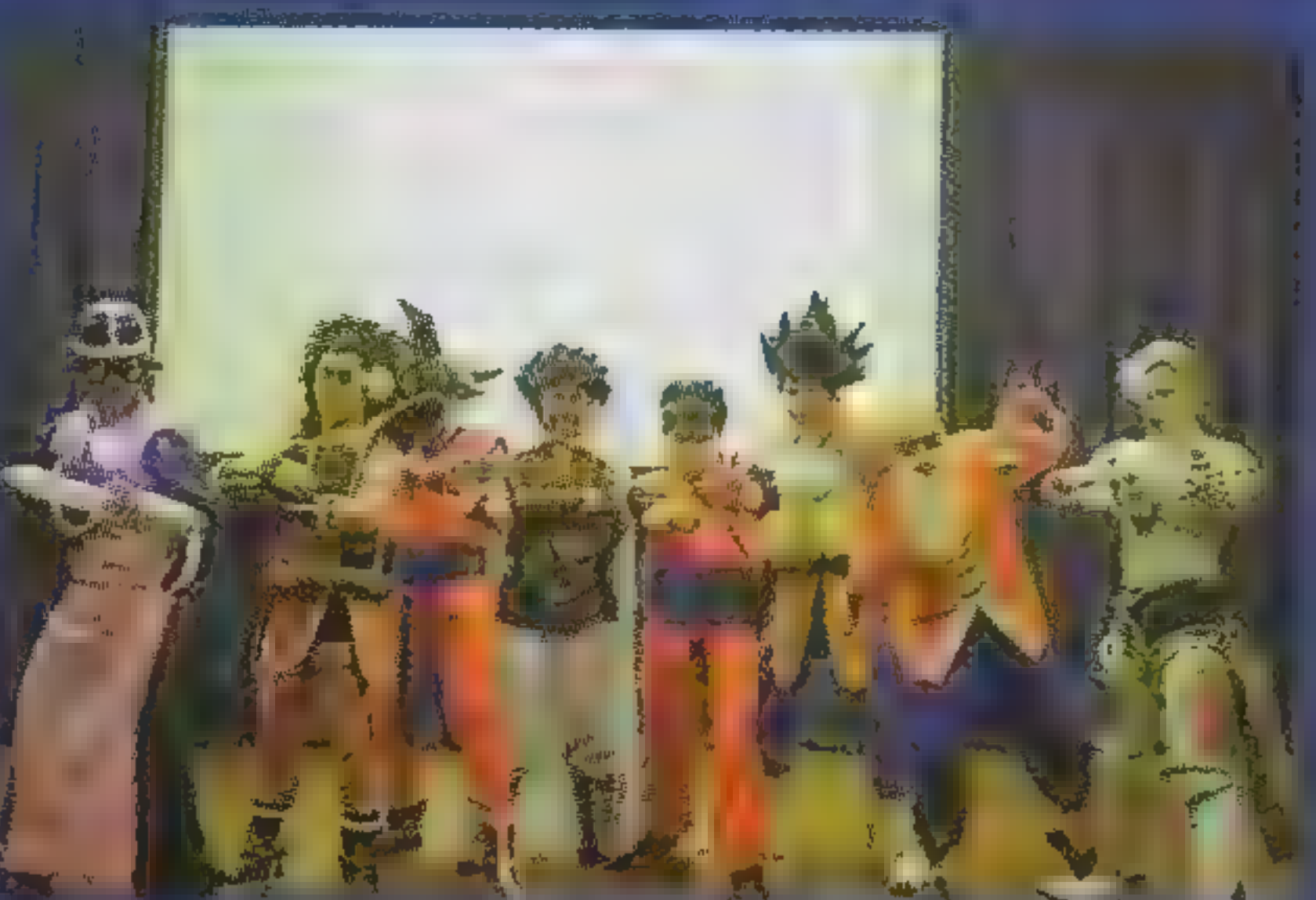
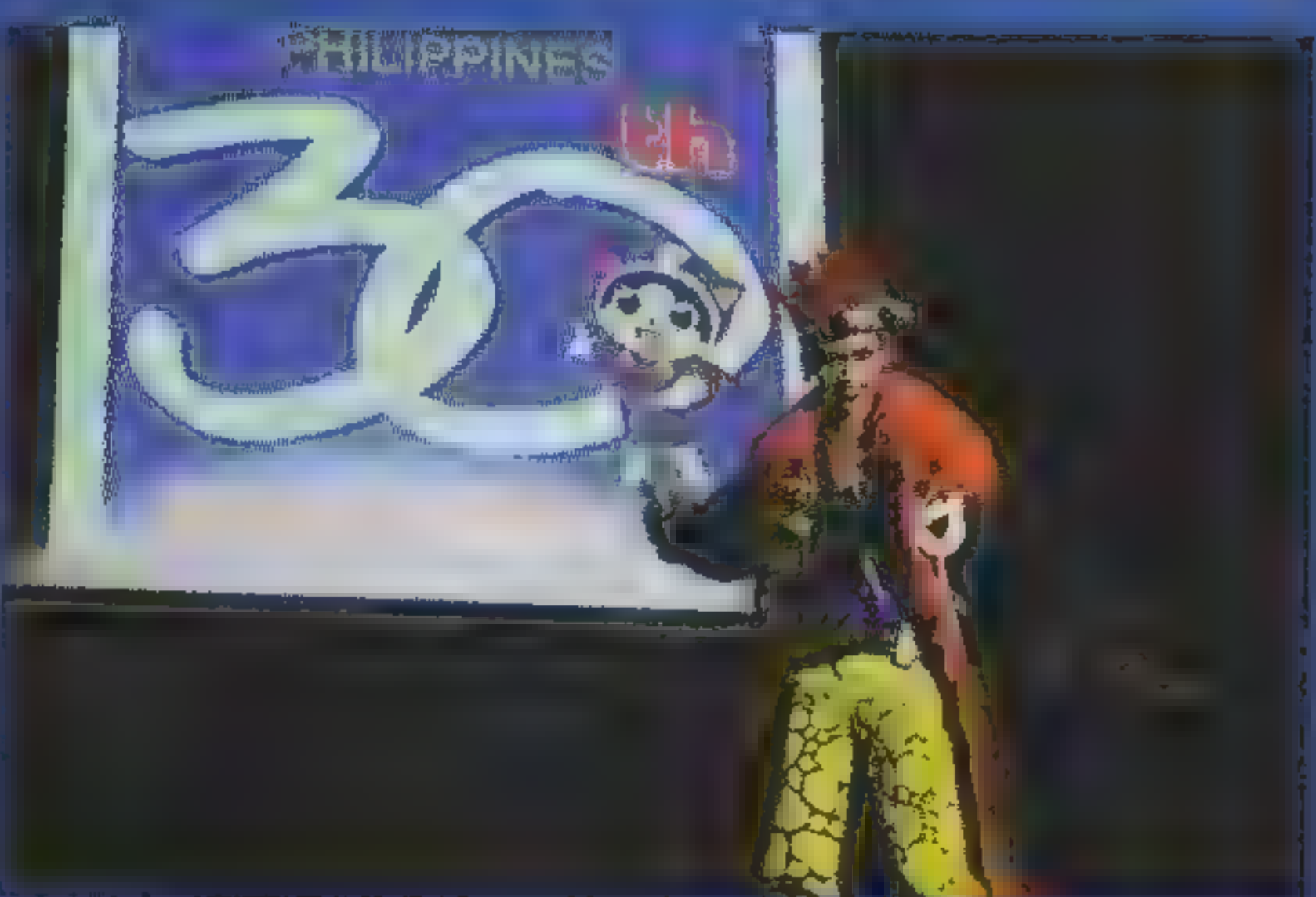




CON-IN-FOCUS

# TOEI ANIMATION PHILIPPINES

11-26-16 | 3-7PM  
ICITE AUDITORIUM EASTWOOD



TOEI Animation: one of the makers of our favorite anime shows that we watch and most of them are from our childhood (90's kids). Last November 26, 2016, TOEI celebrated their 30th Anniversary and to give way for that, they held a cosplay competition! The characters to be portrayed for the cosplay competition must be from any of the anime series that they made such as Sailormoon, Dragonball Z, Pretty Cure, One Piece and Digimon.

Entrance fee to the event is only P100 and seats and comfortability while watching were guaranteed and assured to all the attendees. Unlike with other events, this event only highlights one thing which is the Cosplay Competition. The Competition were judged by the some of the people behind TOEI Animation Philippines.

All of the cosplayers who joined have done fantastic performance with their skits & costumes and I believe most of the attendees were fascinated by them as seen with the audience impact during the event and I also believe that the judges did have a hard time choosing the winners for each category of the competition.

There will be a total of 8 winners and each will receive a cash prize depending on the award received. The overall champion will receive PHP 20,000, the best male and female will receive PHP 15,000 each, the special prize male and female costume will receive PHP 10,000 each, the special prize male and female performance will also receive PHP 10,000 each and the special prize audience impact will receive P10,000.



## THE WINNERS:

**Special Prize Audience Impact:**

-Monkey D. Luffy cosplayer

**Special Prize Best Male Costume:**

-Friza cosplayer

**Special Prize Best Female Costume:**

-Angewomon cosplayer

**Special Prize Best Male Performance:**

-Gohan cosplayer

**Special Prize Best Male Performance:**

-Vegeta cosplayer

**Special Prize Best Female Performance:**

-Lillymon cosplayer

**Overall Champion:**

-Master Pogi/ Mr. Satan cosplayer

The event does not end after the awarding; photo ops were held and the best part is there will be per anime series plus the cosplayers who didn't join the competition could be also included with them. Everyone also get to mingle with others who shares the same fandom with each one of the attendees. We thank TOEI Animation for bringing this event to each one of us and we hope for more events to come like this in the future.



To see all the images, visit  
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#selfierready

**NEW  
PACKAGING**



**THE NO.1**  
HAIRSTYLING WAX BRAND  
IN THE PHILIPPINES

BE  
**GATSBY**  
POGI

PARA SELFIE READY





## 60 Years of Philippines-Japan Friendship Event

article by Yani

In celebration of the 60th year of the friendship between Philippines and Japan, a one day event has been held at Market Market Activity Center last December 4, 2017. The event features a live performances from our favorite girl band group AKB48's Team 8, Starmarie and a special performance from the entertainers from Movie Stars Cafe featuring our favorite anime girl group: Muse from the series Love Live!. The event was free and open to all.

During the event, HERO TV's anime segmet for 2017 has been revealed during the event which varies from the classic anime which most of them had an impact during our childhood up to the latest ones like Love Live! Sunshine. They have a lot of new and returning shows so you better watch out for them.

AKB48's latest song "High Tension" which features Haruka Shimazaki was also viewed and promoted during the event. It will be her last song together with the group.

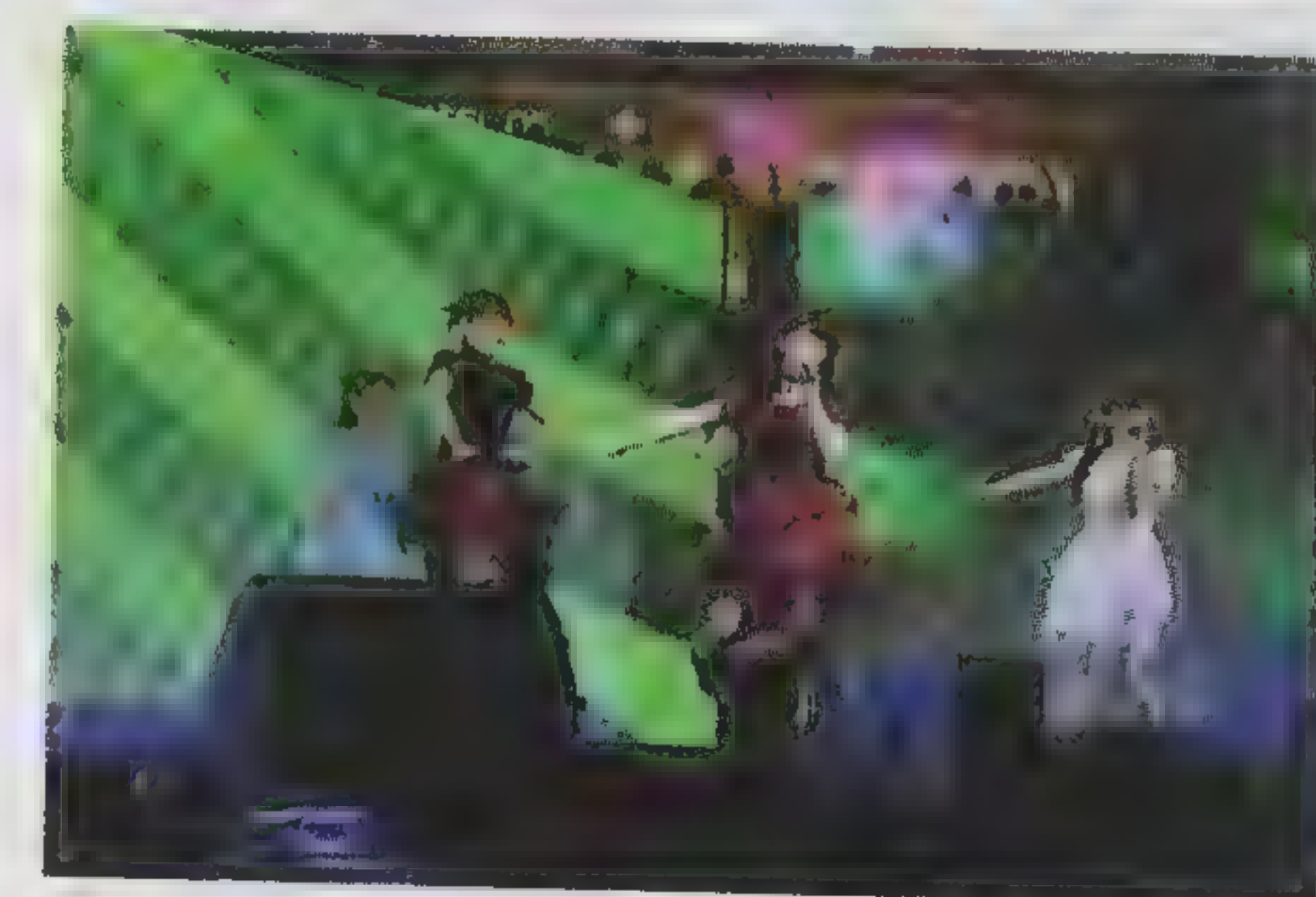
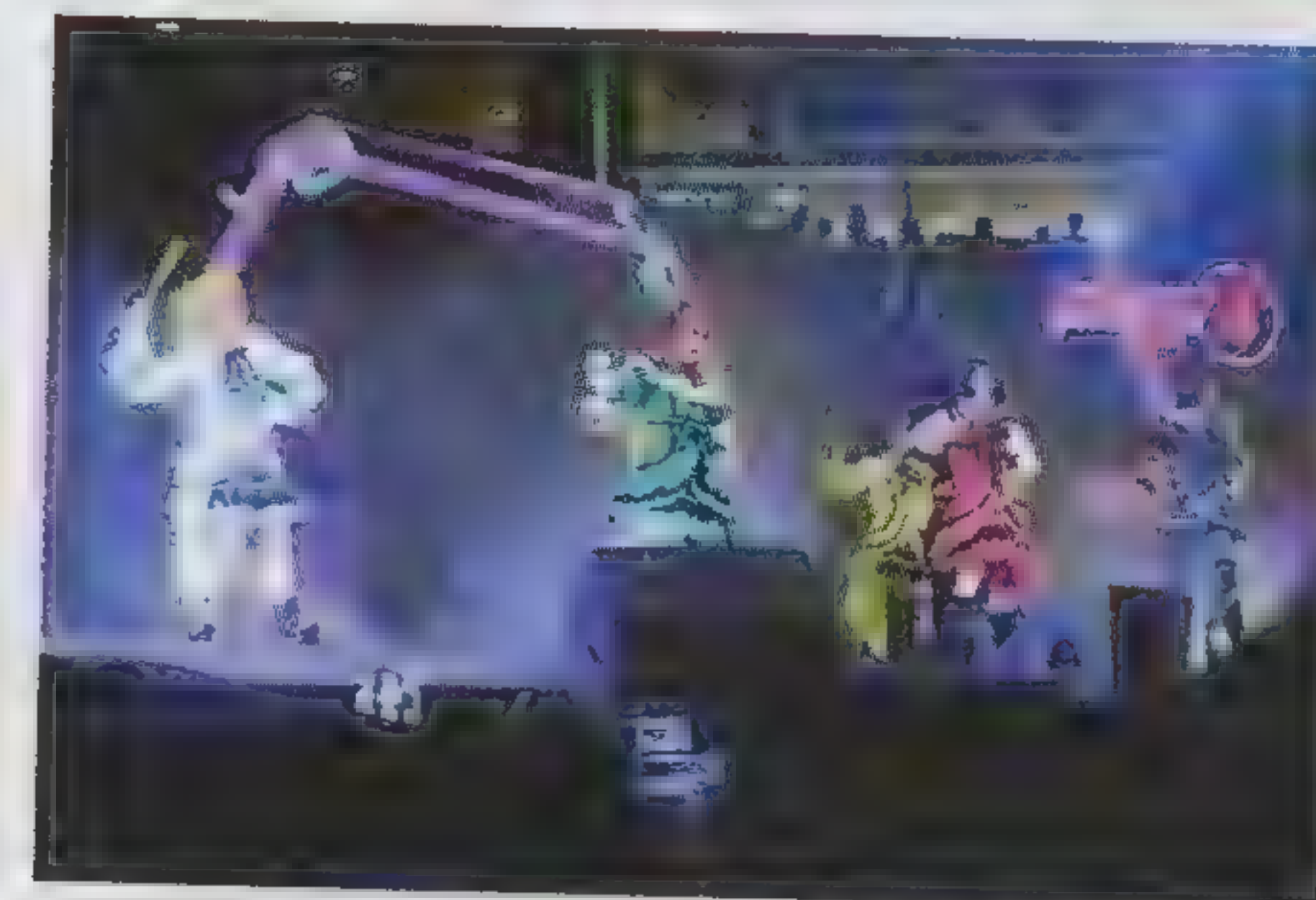
Performers from the Movie Stars Cafe which is also managed by HalloHallo prepared a special performance for us featuring our favorite girls from the series Love Live! Their costumes during the event was the Kira Kira Sensation version and they performed 3 well-known songs from the franchise entitled "START DASH", "Kaguya no Shiro de Odoritai" and "Bokura Ima No Naka de".

The MNL48 Plus app which will be used for the ongoing MNL48 auditions was also promoted to all the event goers. The App was first announced during the very first fan meeting of AKB48's Team 8 which was held the day before the event at the Movie Stars Cafe. People who were intertested must only register online and buy Team 8's poster which costs P800 each which will be received on the day of the event.

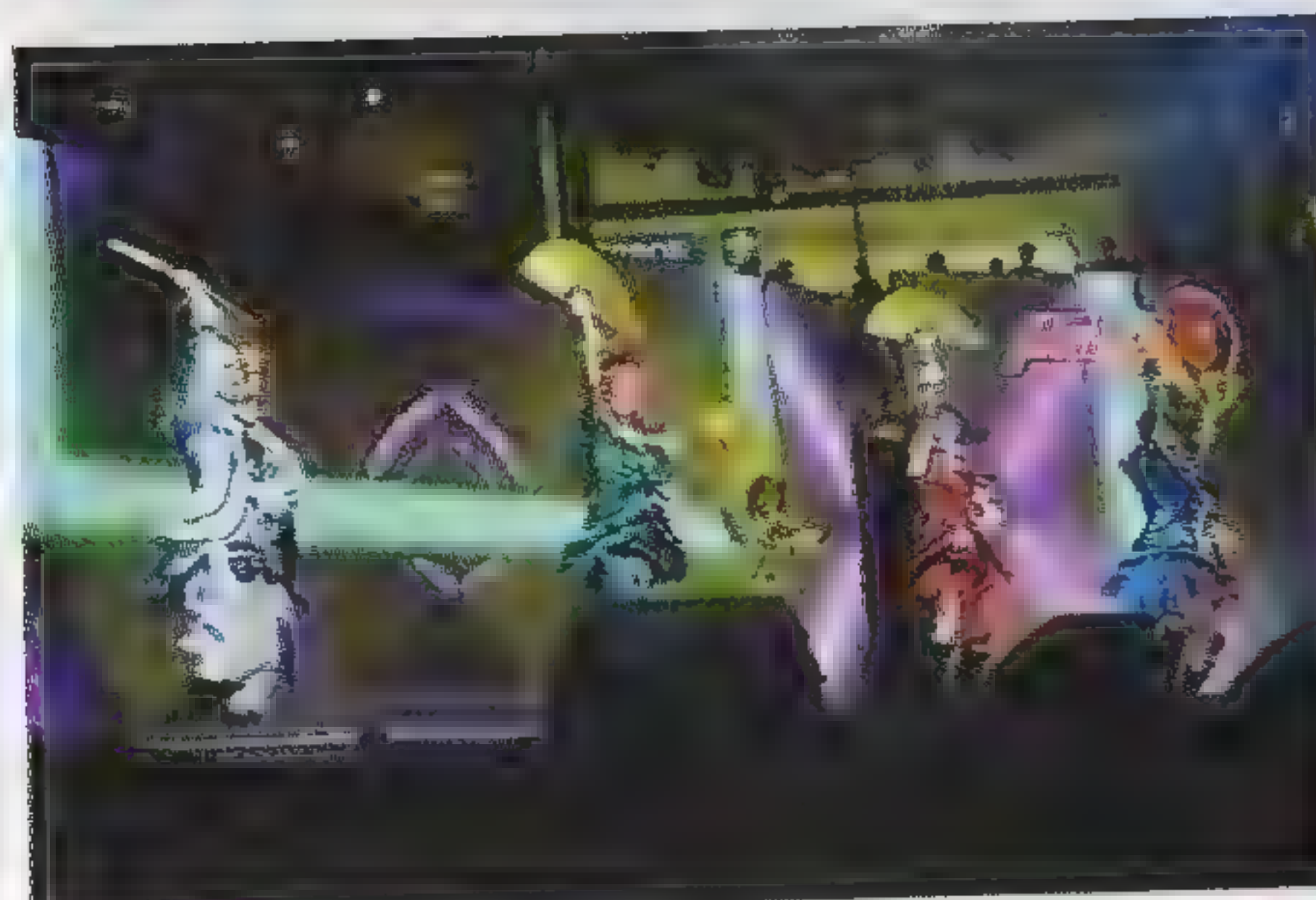
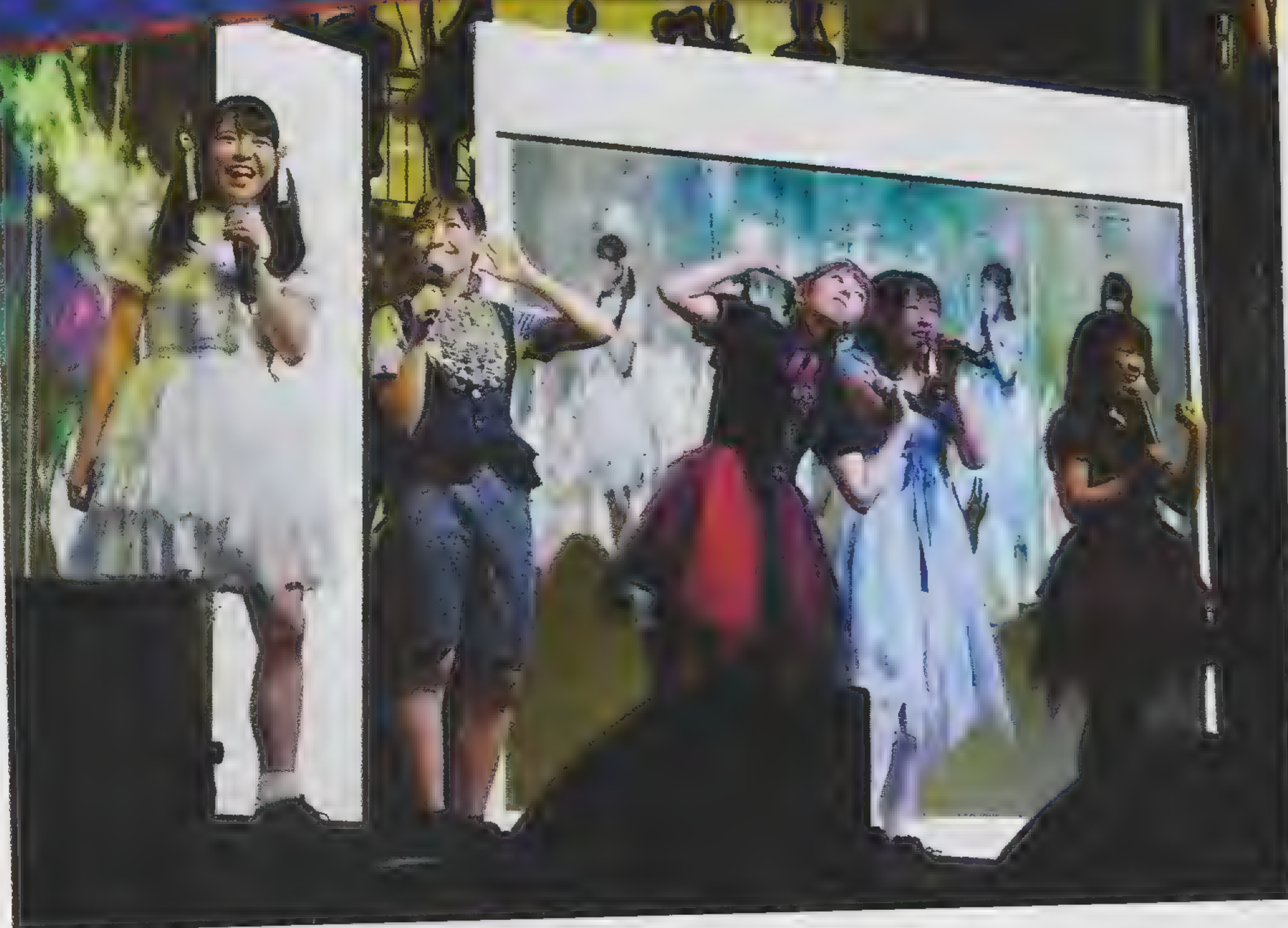
Starmarie returns to the Philippines again and this time they will be performing at the PH-JP event! They usually perform on paid events but this time, you can watch them live for free! They also had selling of merchandise during the event where they can sign it plus photos with them~ Starmarie Philippines group was also at the event to support them.

The AKB48 video played in the big screen which indicated that Team 8 will be performing next. Loud cheers could be heard from the fans. They performed several songs plus they had also a question and answer portion about the Philippines during the event. It was Team 8's 2nd time here in the Philippines but not all of the Team members were present from last year. The members who went for this year were Hijiri Tanikawa, Nanami Sato, Rin Okabe, Maria Shimizu, Ayane Takahashi, Nanase Yoshikawa, Serika Nagano, Kotone Hitomi, Riona Hamamatsu, Yurina Gyoten, Rena Fukuchi and Karin Shimoaoki.

Same with last year, they also performed at ABS-CBN's noon time show SHOWTIME! during their stay here in the Philippines.







Aside from the Filipino fans who attended during the event, there were also other nationalities who came just to watch either STARMARIE and TEAM 8 perform onstage! The crowd was indeed lively and hyper during the event; enjoying every minute of it. There were also some who brought their favorite girl band's merchandise and wore it during the event such as t-shirts, towels and some even bring lightsticks for the concert.

As we can see during the event, the Japanese enthusiasts becomes larger every year; many people could see and appreciate the great things in Japan like their culture. We hope to see more Japan themed events this 2017 that everyone could enjoy and where we can learn something new from it plus to expand the community here in the Philippines.

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 Magazine to see all of the images.

GK  
 CONTEST 2016  
 Champions are Born

Figure



Champion  
 Serafin Germany



1st Runner Up  
 tomcat  
 Germany



2nd Runner Up  
 dianahase  
 Germany

Diorama



Champion  
 ireaxtyle Russian Federation

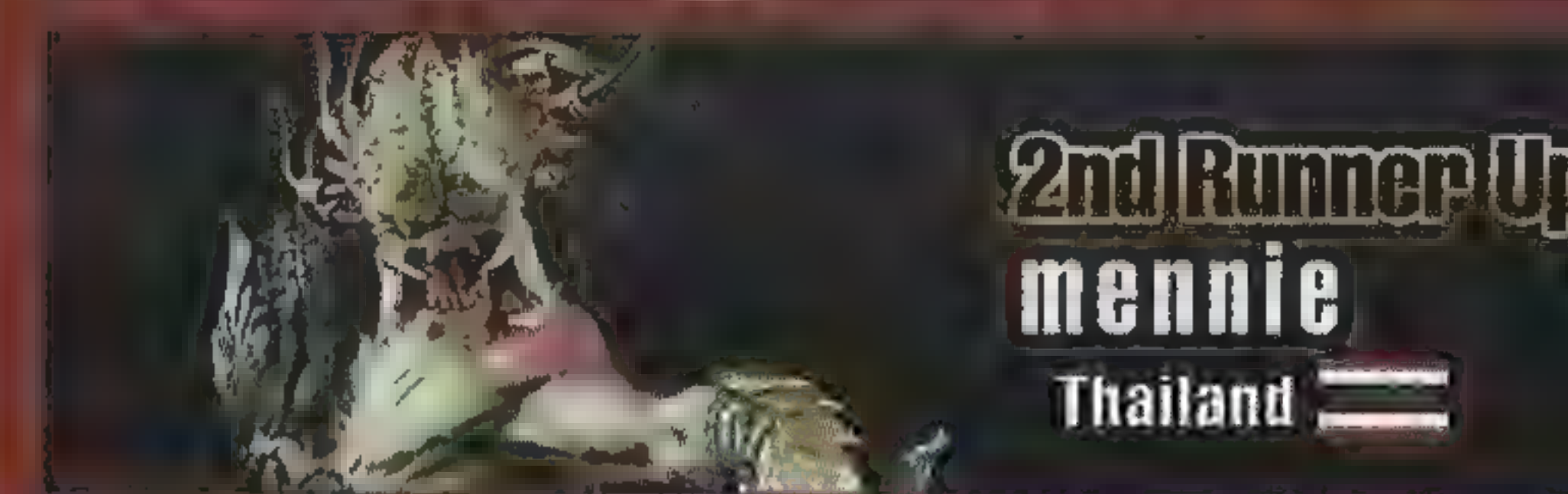
Robot



Champion  
 蔚蓝 China



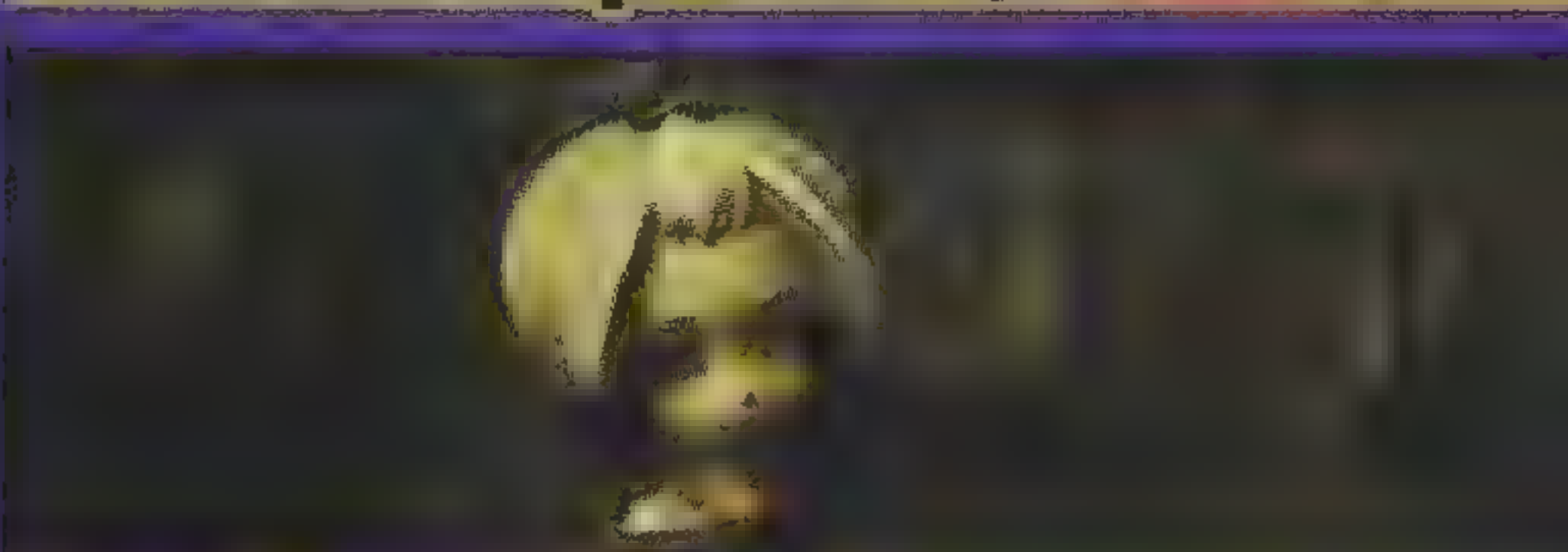
1st Runner Up  
 tomcat  
 Germany



2nd Runner Up  
 mennie  
 Thailand



1st Runner Up salva spain



2nd Runner Up Ksana Russian Federation



# A Special Kind of Love is in the Air

One Asia 2016  
by Ann

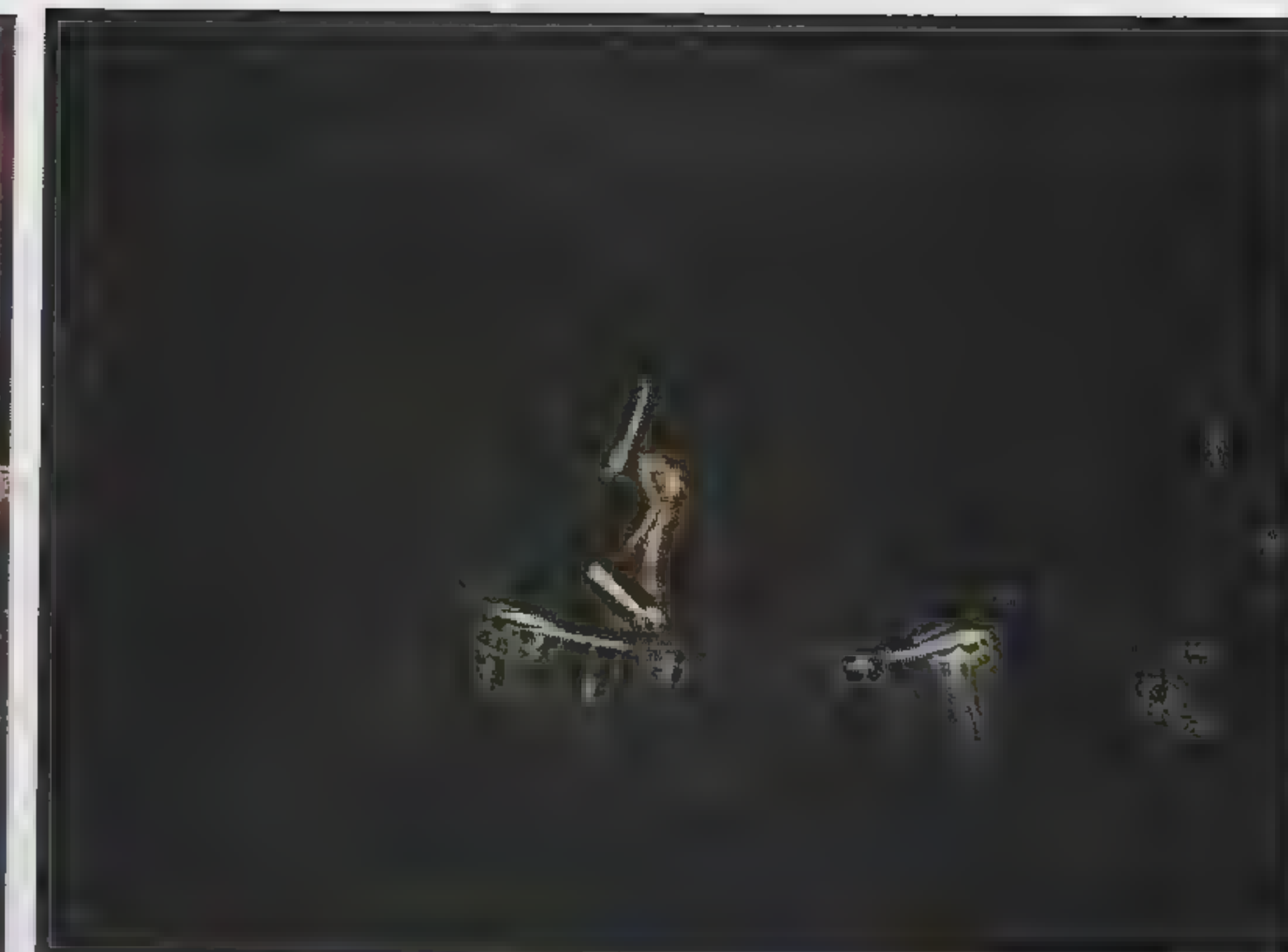
From your TV to your neighbor, from the bus, jeep, or tricycle to the office or school, something is in the air and it can't be missed. Secondary to the air we breathe (and sometimes more than any love we get from our crush), we are surrounded every minute of every day by music. But because music has been with us since birth, we are more open to its changes, but we must never forget our past.



Extending their rich talents and sharing the stage with fellow Asians, AUN J Classic Orchestra visited the Philippines this November 28 at the RCBC Plaza as part one of ONE ASIA Joint Concert 2016. The group started in 2008 with the following members: Kohei Inoue on the shinobue and shamisen; Ryohei Inoue on the wadaiko; Hideki Ishigaki on the shakuhachi; Michiko Yamada on the shinobue; Hideki Onoue on the shamisen; Shin Ichikawa and Azumi Yamano on the koto; and HIDE on the narimono.

With these traditional Japanese instruments, they have each participated in prestigious stages, but they joined forces to create a music that would transcend time and generations. In addition to making good music together, they even planted cherry trees in primary schools they have played at in Japan for their Sakura Project. With such coordination and harmony, they started the ONE ASIA Joint Concert in 2013 for the 40th anniversary of ASEAN-Japan friendship.

This year's performance is first staged in the Philippines, but AUN-J will perform on December 7 at the Esplanade Concert Hall in Singapore together with performers from Singapore, Laos, Brunei, Philippines, Cambodia, Malaysia, Vietnam, Indonesia, and Thailand. This grand concert will be considered the ONE ASIA Classic Orchestra's world premiere. But before they get there, we witnessed their Philippine Concert.



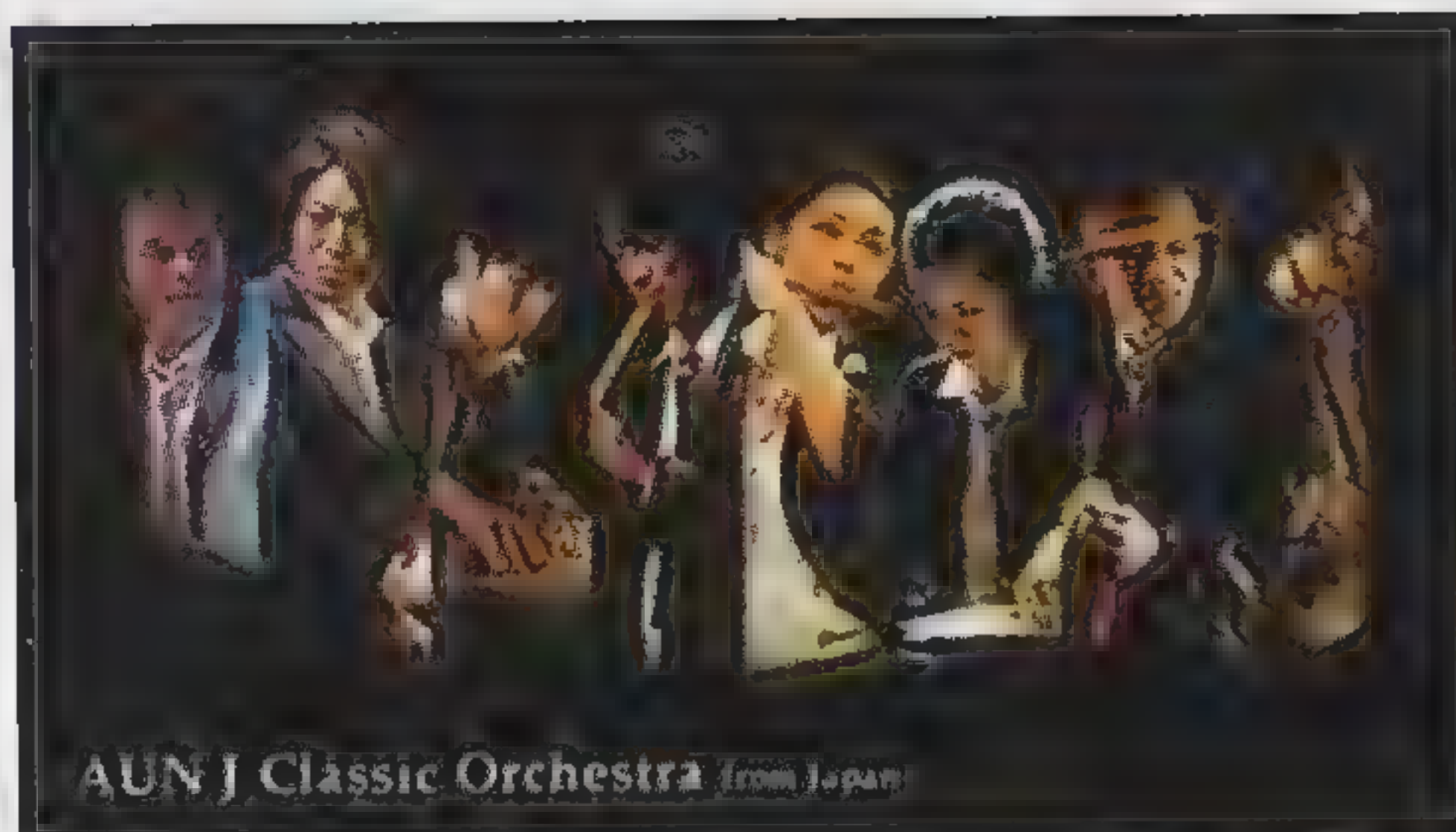
Images by Creative Image Foundation

The 15 songs they played were all captivating, but there were performances that really stood out on stage. As an opening act, AUN J mesmerizes the crowd with "Gift" which is a celebration of the gift of nature. Their songs really come alive as they dance while playing music, which is something we don't commonly see when we think of an orchestra performance, especially when they played "Ran" and "A Thousand Lights" which included the interaction of the audience. Meanwhile, Studio Ghibli fans are rewarded by their comforting rendition of "Mononoke-Hime" from the movie. One of the highlights of the show was the comedic performance on the shamisen of the twin brothers, Ryohei and Kohei for the song "Aun Shamisen". This wowed the crowd because the two started with their separate instruments and they played the strings like in a race, but then they raised the bar higher by sharing a shamisen.



The Filipino performers are part of UP TUGMA Philippine Traditional Music Ensemble of the University of the Philippines, and they delivered an energy that is in sync with that of AUN-J. Julia Eunice Yabes, Elizabeth Arce, Hannah Maria Malonzo, Nelson Mon-alon Jr., Jason Pio Gabriel Verzola, and Harold Cruz





AUN J Classic Orchestra from Japan



OF TUGMA Philippine Traditional Music Ensemble University of the Philippines



Santos performed "Mindanao Kulintang" with the traditional instruments such as dabakan, bandurria, patteteg, kulintang, saggeypo, and kutiyapi. It was packed with lively exhilarations and singing. They even had a chance to take a selfie while doing so! Jason and Harold then performed with AUN-J to the songs, "Heart of the Great River", "Bolero", and "In the Moonlight". However, the vibrant music echoed in the performance of both AUN-J and UP TUGMA, beginning with "Salidumay" that was reimagined with the traditional Japanese instruments. The whole ensemble of bright and soothing melodies came to an amazing finale with the song "One Asia" which embodies the small beginnings of the project to the powerful display of music as if telling different stories and blending them for one great mission. This is all true to their motto of "tradition and innovation".

Traditional instruments aren't meant to be stuck in glass cases in museum; they're destined to enrich our experiences, and one country which takes this task to heart and soul is Japan. With AUN J Classic Orchestra and each nation's great artists, truly Asia becomes one in music and in spirit.



**Honeybee Patisserie** is not just your ordinary bakeshop. It offers a wide array of Japanese Inspired, freshly baked breads and homemade cakes and pastries.



You don't need to fly all the way to Japan just to have a taste of delightful treats. Located around Greenhills, The Fort and Westgate areas, Honeybee Patisserie can give you the taste of Tokyo's authentic desserts when you get that midnight sweet craving. They serve delicious and exciting twists to your palate. Try their very own Tokyo Tiramisu, Takoyaki Bread and Matcha Cappuccino that will surely make you come back for more!



Takoyaki Bread



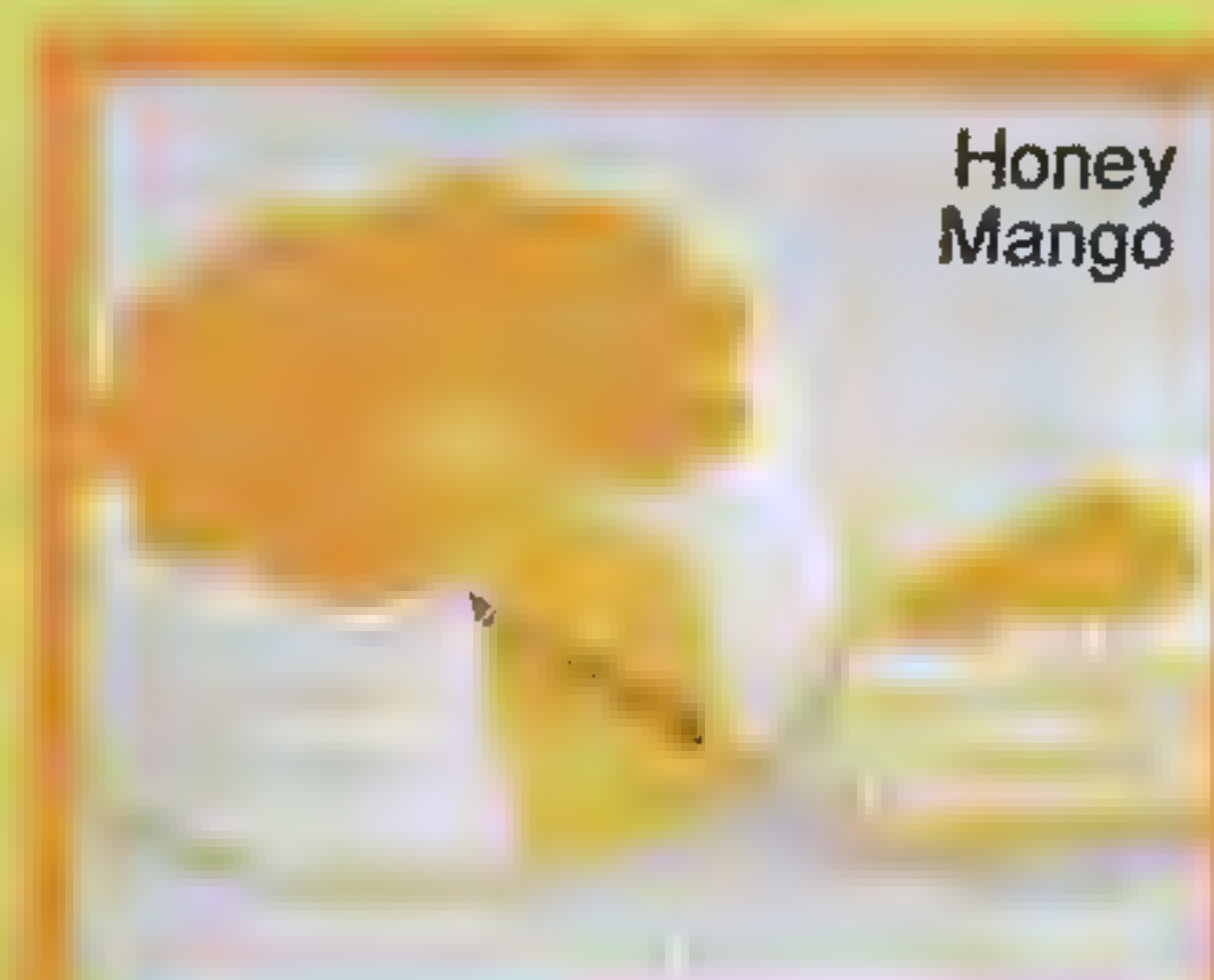
Tokyo Tiramisu



Matcha Cappuccino



Chocolate Decadence



Honey Mango

For orders and pick-up:

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229 Wilson St.,  
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Unit 2, G/F  
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30th St., Taguig  
478-7483  
Mon-Sun (9am- 4am)

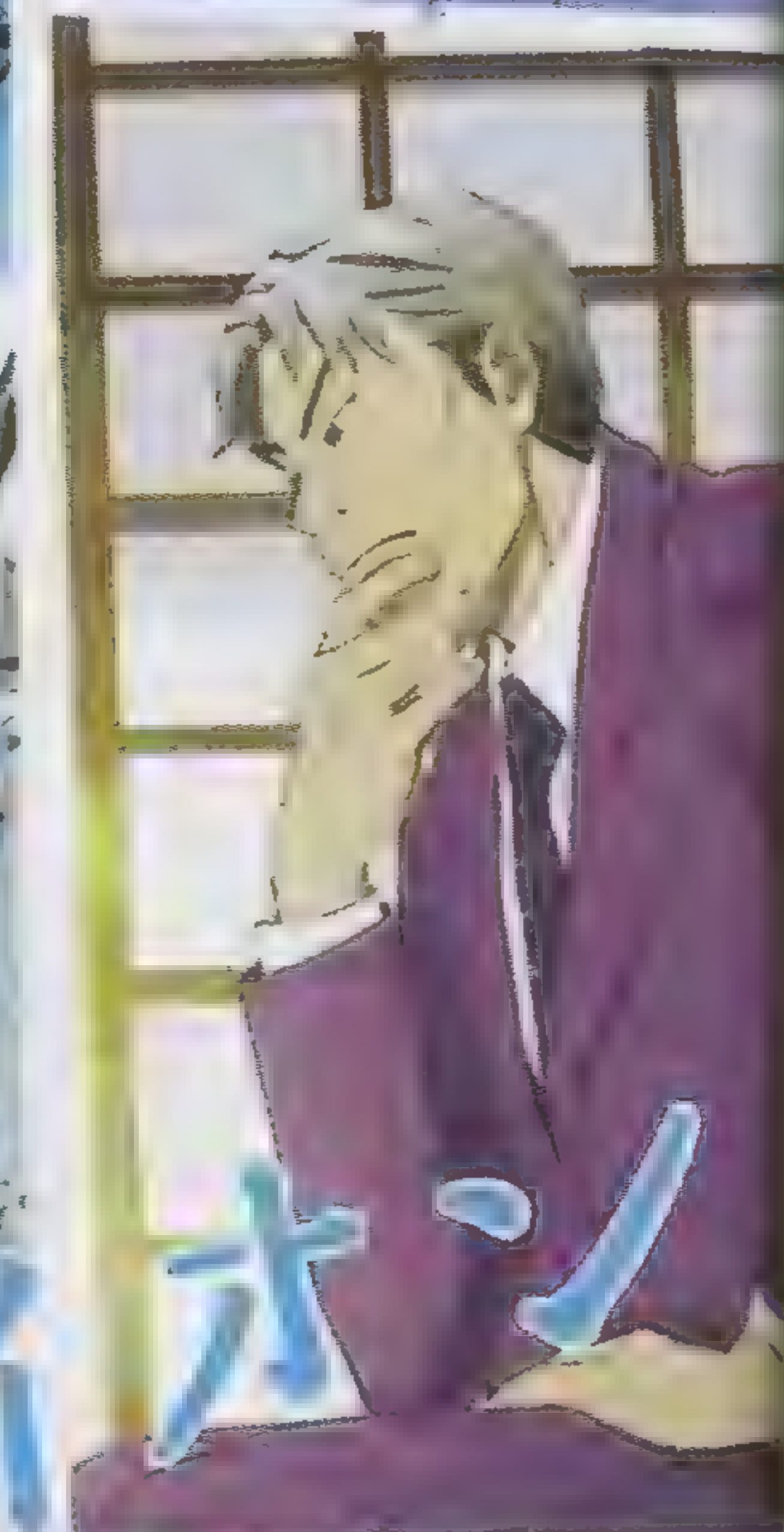
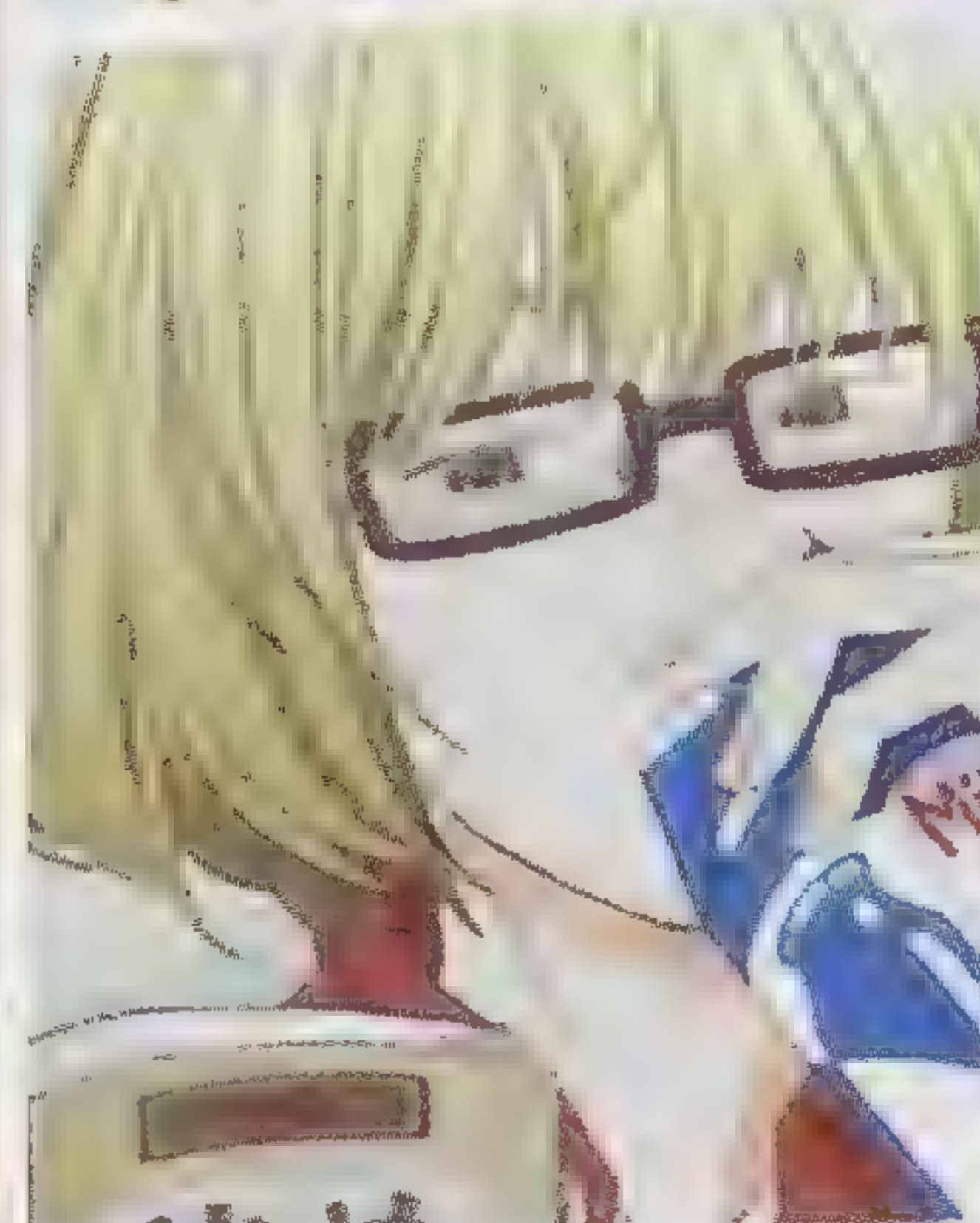
**Westgate**  
Unit 101 Cluster J,  
Westgate Center,  
Commerce Ave, Alabang  
511-0939  
Mon-Sun (11am-12am)





# COVER FEATURE

by Mikelle



3月のライオン  
March comes in like a lion

This is a story about triumphs and failures, talent and hard work, friends and family, childhood and adulthood.

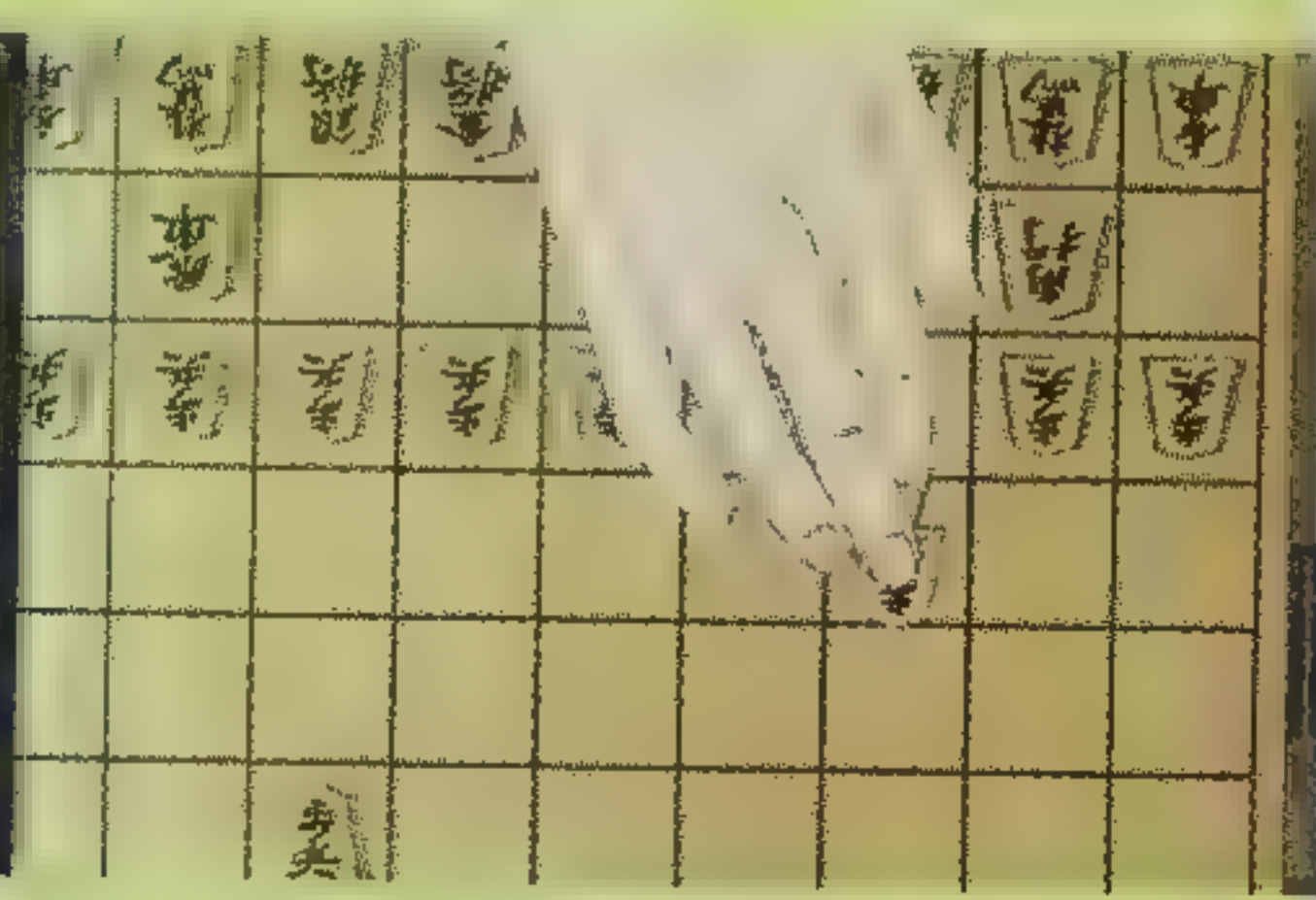


“...what I can't stand about these words fraught with poison is me who wants to hear them.”  
-Kiryama Rei.

**Kiryama Rei** is a 17-year old high school professional shogi player who recently left his home and decided to live an independent life bringing only his talent and worries. Orphaned at a very young age, Rei was taken in by his fathers rival in shogi and since then he lived in a world painted in gray. At first he struggled and fought in order to quickly become an adult, until a fateful encounter brought him back into a bright and colorful world. Due to an embarrassing situation, Rei met the humble **Kawamoto** family consisting of three sisters, their grandpa and a few cats. Rei was forcibly fed and taken care of by this doting family, and from that point on he begins to question his way of living.

**Sangatsu no Lion** or **March Comes in Like a Lion** is a 23-episode slice of life, drama anime by **Studio Shaft** which premiered on October 2016 as part of the Fall Season anime lineup. The series is directed by **Akiyuki Shinbo** who became known through his other works in Shaft such as **Bakemonogatari** and **Puella Magi Madoka Magica** where he won the award for Best Director.

At first glance you might think that the story revolves around the world of shogi, which is actually partly correct, Sangatsu no Lions main theme is about home and family. The show is a literal feels train that could bring forth tears and hit hard emotionally. For those fans who've ridden Honey and Clovers roller coaster ride, prepare yourselves since Sangatsu no Lion will surely deliver.





# characters

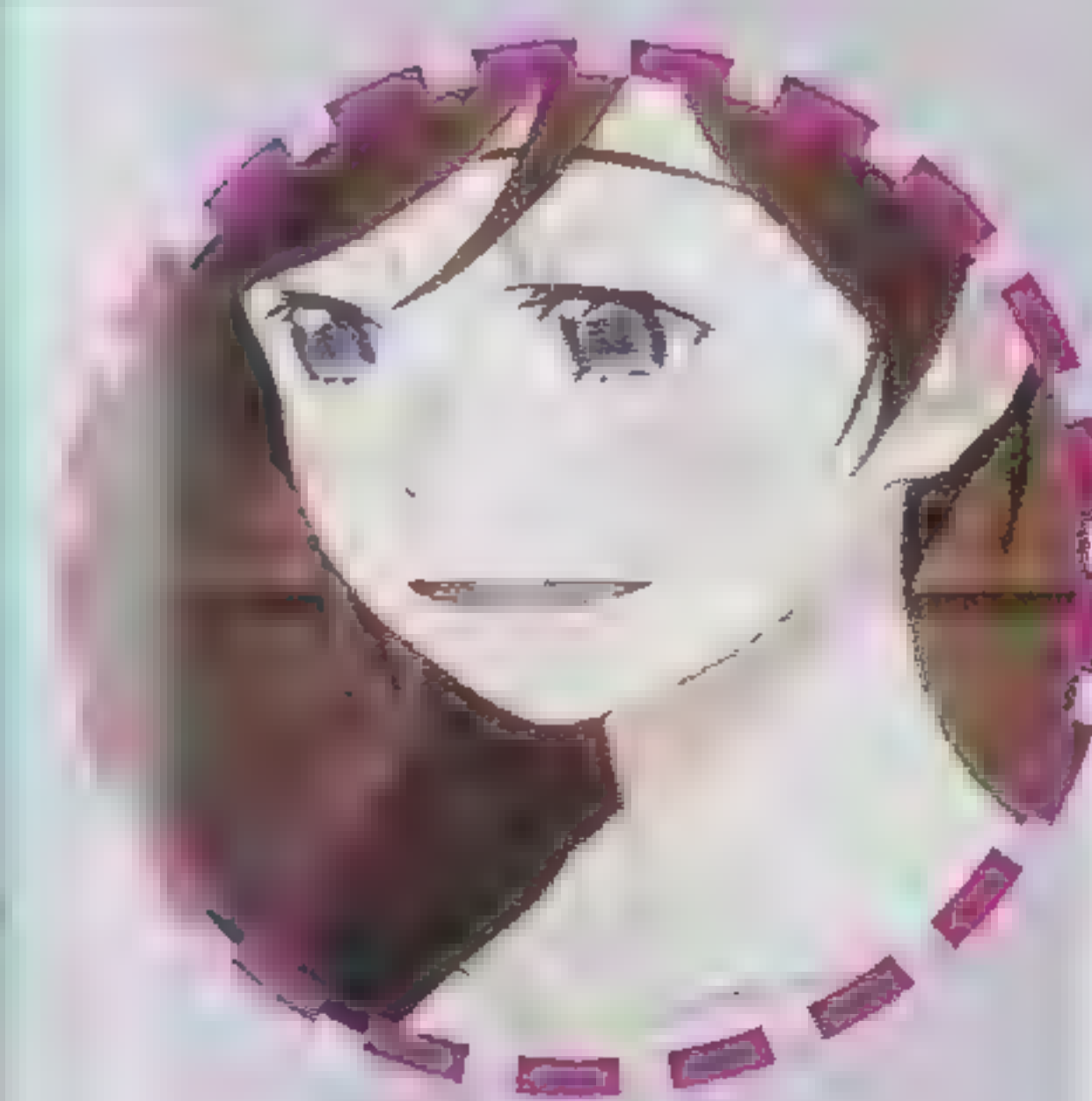


## Rei Kiriyama

(CV: Kengo Kawanishi)

Rei is the main protagonist and also acts as the narrator of the story. He is a 17-year old pro shogi player who debuted as a pro back in his middle school days. He was branded as a shogi genius and is said to be one of the most promising players of his generation. Rei's achievement shocked the world of shogi as there's only a handful of people had done the same and most of them rose through the ranks as prominent shogi players.

Rei actually hides a traumatic past where his parents and his little sister met an unfortunate accident leaving him as the only remaining member of the family. He was then taken in by his late father's good friend as both an adoptive son and an apprentice in shogi. Since then, Rei lived a complicated childhood until ultimately deciding to live by himself. He was able to support himself using his earnings as a pro player and decided to return to school where his only chatmate happens to be his nosy homeroom teacher. But then Rei's life experienced a new drastic change after he got acquainted with the Kawamoto family.

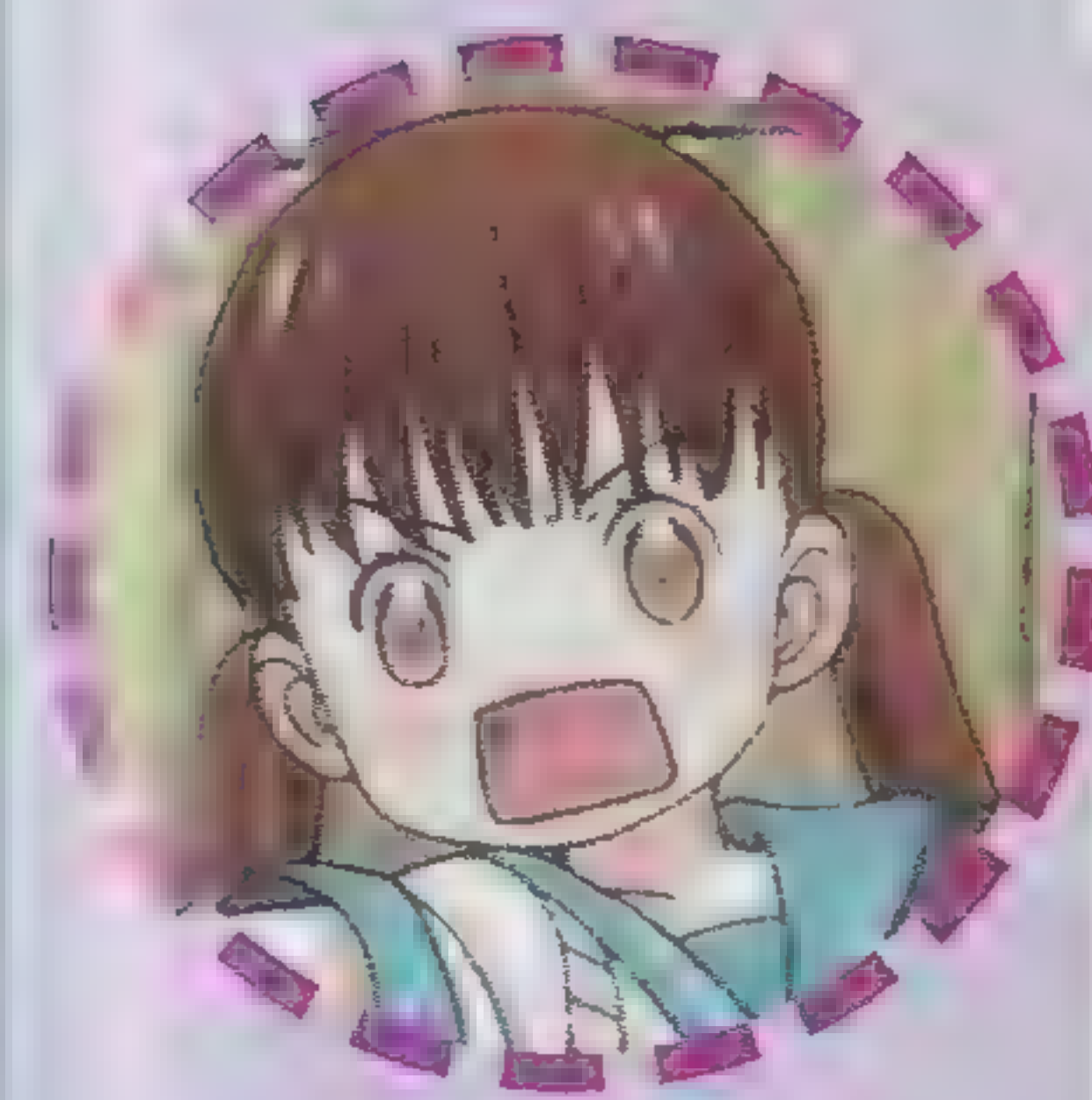


## Akari Kawamoto

(CV: Ai Kayano)

Akari is the eldest of the Kawamoto sisters and acts as the mother figure ever since their mother passed away. She possesses a mature yet kind aura which she exudes as she takes care of her younger sisters. She lends a hand at their grandfather's traditional Japanese confectionary shop during daytime and works at her aunt's bar as a hostess during evenings.

Akari is quite fond of round and plump things to the point where her calm demeanor crumbles whenever she sees one. She has a habit of picking up stray animals just to bring them home, feed and dote on them until they became fat and chubby with Rei being the latest victim.

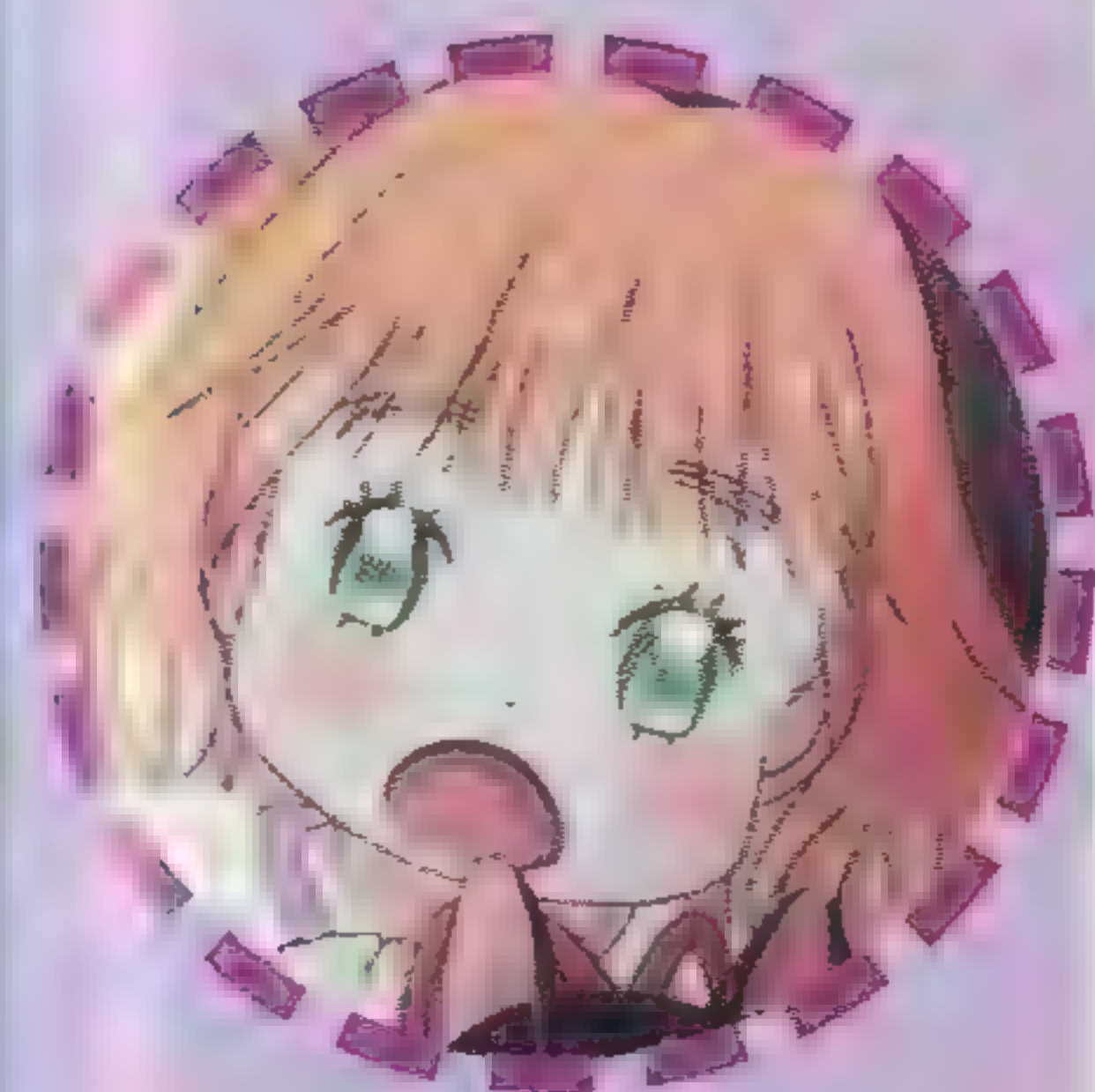


## Hinata Kawamoto

(CV: Kana Hanazawa)

Hinata is the second child of the Kawamoto siblings who seems to be the most cheerful and energetic of the three. She's a middle school student who is currently experiencing puberty and has issues with romance. Hinata developed feelings for her childhood friend who became the ace player of their school's baseball team.

On a later part of the manga, she accidentally heard Rei saying that he plans to marry her in the future but Hinata just ignores it, thinking that he was just joking around and using it as an excuse to silence her father. She also enrolled at Rei's high school after graduating middle school.



## Momo Kawamoto

(CV: Misaki Kuno)

Momo is the youngest of the siblings and currently attends a daycare center where Rei sometimes picks her up and goes home together in order to help Akari out. Momo firmly believes that Rei is actually a member of their family and is her older brother. She doesn't remember her mother since she passed away during her infancy which resulted to Akari doting on her and took the place as Momo's mother. Momo's favorite anime character is Bodoro who's a parody of Totoro from My Neighbor Totoro.



# characters



## Harunobu Nikaido

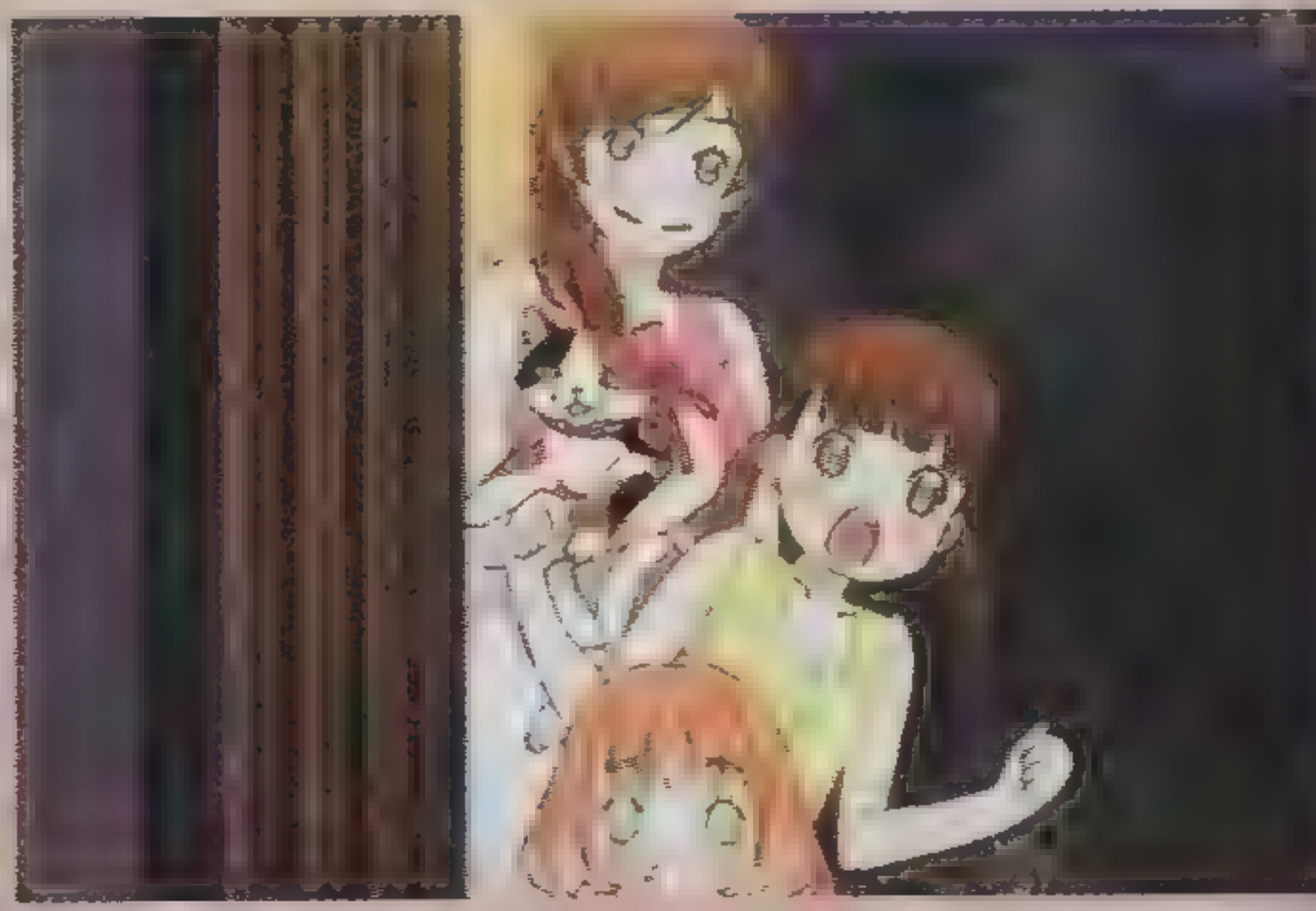
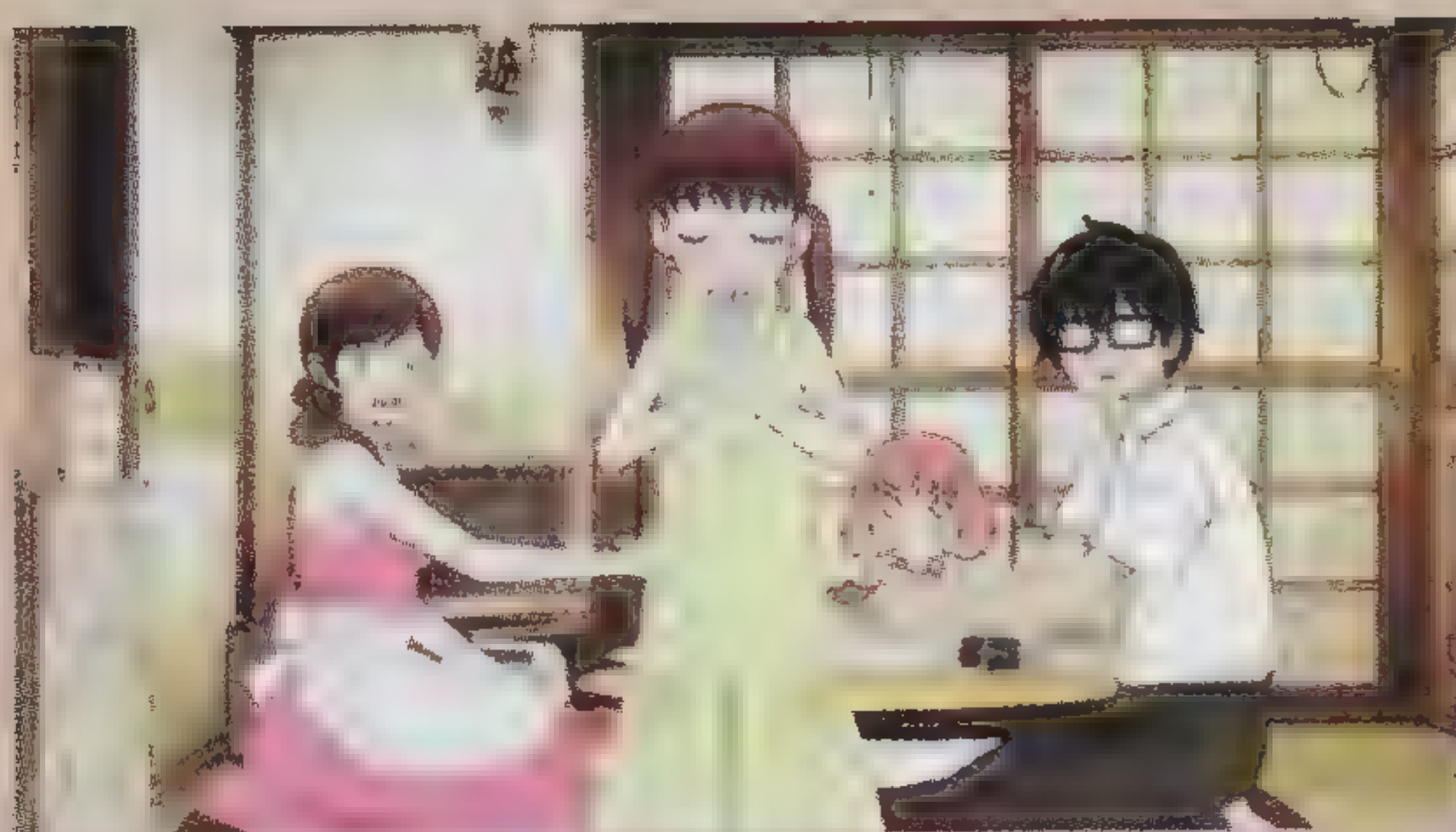
Nikaido is also a pro shogi player and is Rei's self-proclaimed rival and best friend as they've been playing against each other since childhood. Nikaido is from a well off family and has a personal butler serving him. Despite appearing health and energetic, Nikaido is actually chronically ill and spends most of his time in the hospital if not in the shogi hall or with Rei.

Akari was entranced during her first encounter with Nikaido as she adores anything round and fat, while Momo referred to him as Bodoro and kept clinging onto him and treats him like a mascot. He is also modeled after an actual shogi player Satoshi Murayama.



## Kyouko Kouda

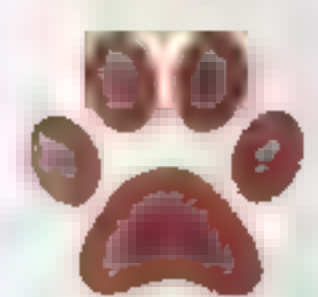
Kyouko is Rei's beautiful yet short-tempered foster sister. They lived together before Rei decided to move out. Their father, being a pro shogi player raised and taught them shogi since childhood. At one point, she noticed that her father gave special treatment to Rei as their father discovered Rei's talent and potential is far greater than his own children resulting to her resenting and holding a grudge against Rei.



## MANGA

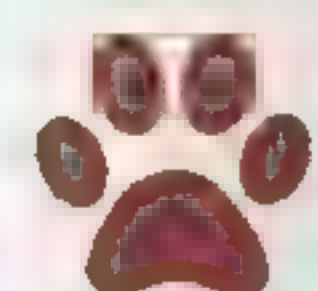
Sangatsu no Lion's anime was originally adapted from Chica Umino's manga of the same title. It began publishing back in 2007 and is still currently being serialized in **Young Animal** with a total of 12 volumes. Chica Umino-sensei was also the one who wrote **Hachimitsu to Clover** or **Honey and Clover** which also had its own anime adaptation.

In 2011, Sangatsu no Lion was nominated for the **Annual Manga Taisho** and won. It also won the **Kodansha Manga Award** in the same year along with Space Brothers, and won the Grand Prize for the 18th Tezuka Osamu Cultural Prize last 2014.



## LIVE ACTION

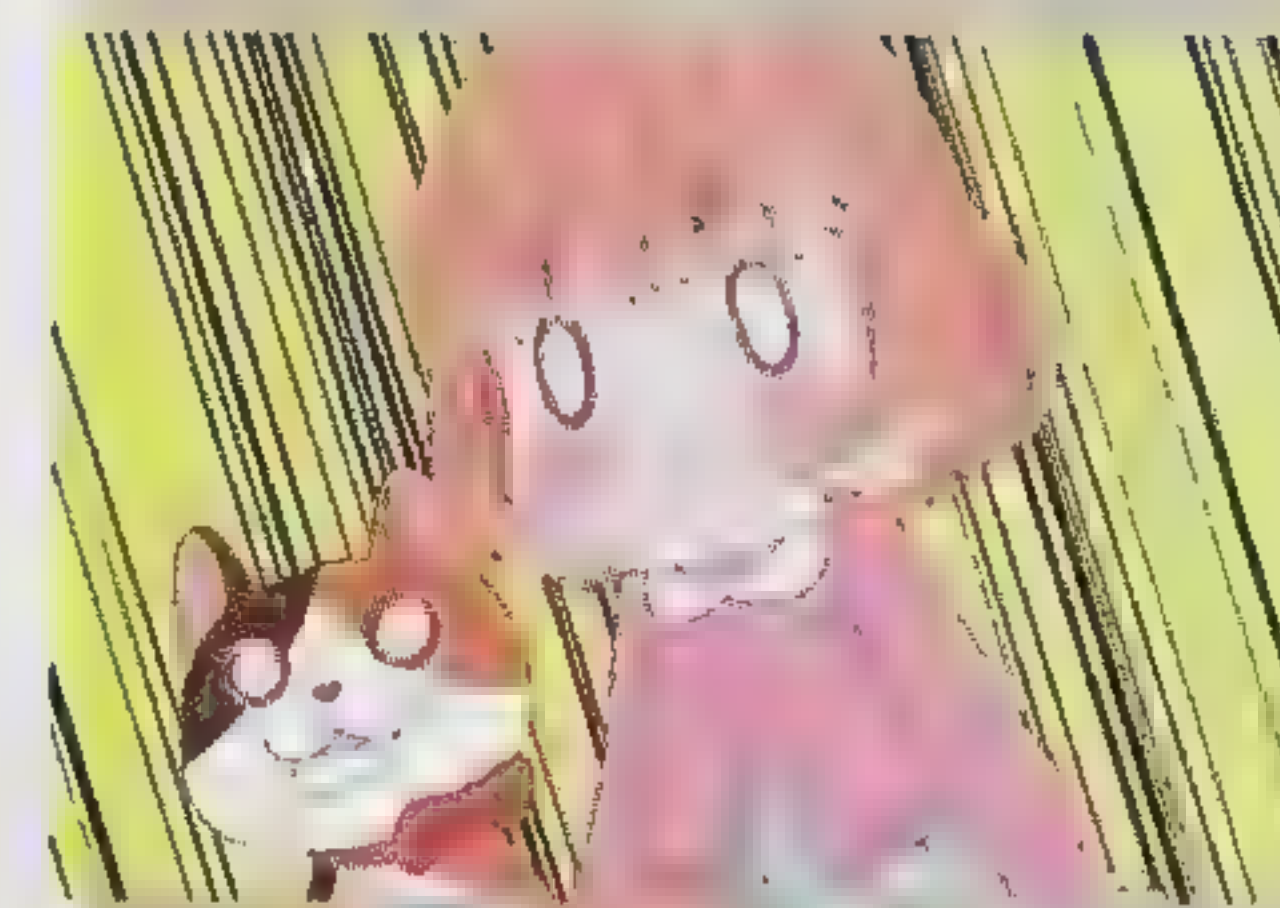
An upcoming 2-part live action film adaptation directed by Keishi Ohtomo will be hitting the big screen this 2017. The first half is scheduled for March and the second half for April. **Kamiki Ryunosuke** will be starring as Kiriyama Rei. Some fans might recognize him as he also appeared in Rurouni Kenshin, Bakuman and Kamisama no Iutoori live action films.



## OTHER MEDIA

Sangatsu no Lion's opening theme is **Answer** while the ending theme is **Fighter** and are both performed by **BUMP OF CHICKEN**. A special ending song called **Nyaa Shougi Ono** was featured during episode 7 which was sung by the Kawamoto sisters' voice actors namely: **Kana Hanazawa, Ai Kayano and Misaki Kuno**.

A CGI music video called **Sangatsu no Lion Meets BUMP OF CHICKEN** was also released back in December 2014 featuring BUMP OF CHICKEN's Fighter single. The collaboration video was sparked because Sangatsu no Lion's mangaka Umino Chika is a fan of BUMP OF CHICKEN while the members of the band are actually fans of the manga series.







## CHARACTER BIO

# Rin and Len Kagamine

by James

Duality. Light and darkness. Heaven and earth. Heat and cold. This theme and property of nature, or even of life itself, has been explored in movies, comic books, TV series, novels, and of course, anime and music. And for fans of Japanese geek culture, both anime and music are one in Vocaloid, a voice synthesizer program that has its own singing characters. And in this fusion of two media, duality is not only tackled, but also embodied by a pair of characters. It's no other than Rin and Len Kagamine.

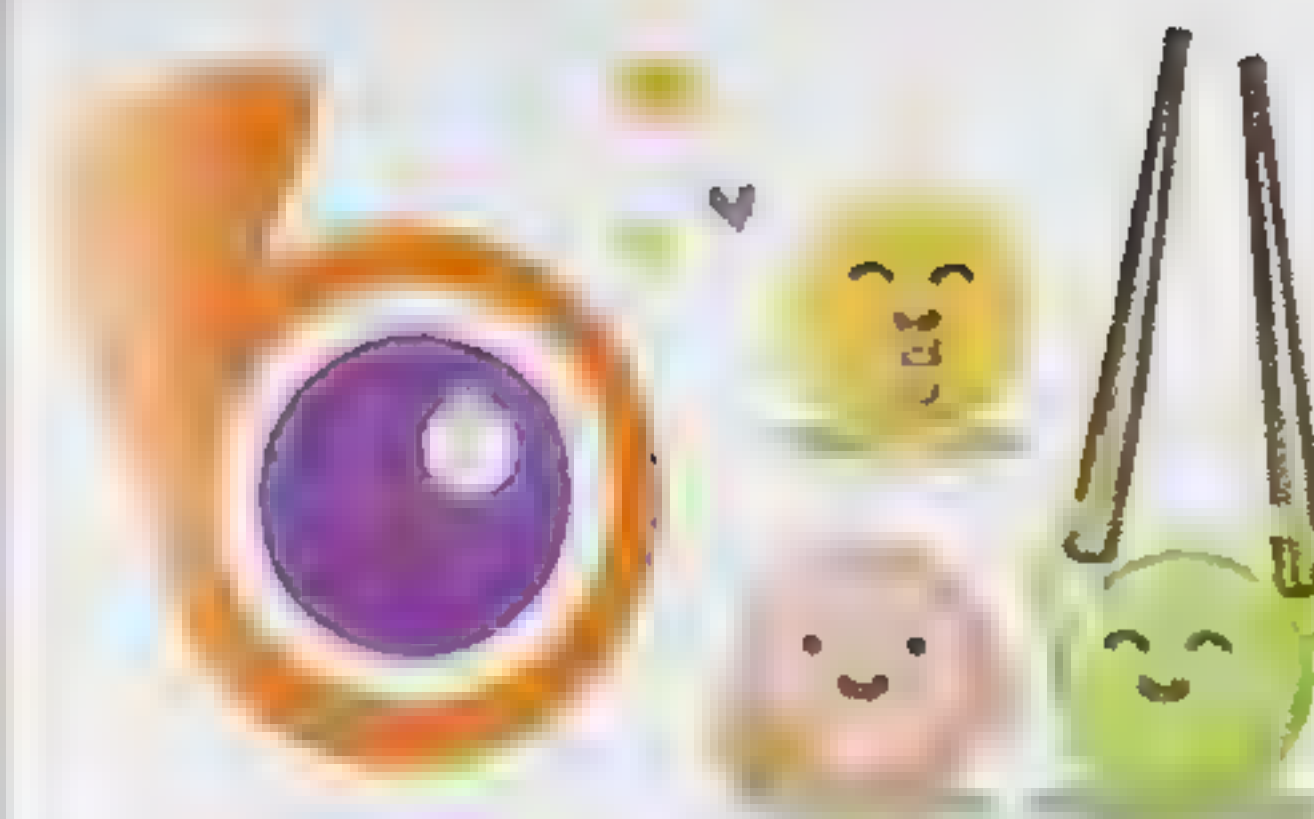
If you noticed that I used pair and not twin or lovers, it's because the Kagamines are neither of the two according to Crypton Media, the company that developed Vocaloid. Turns out the massive shipping or the twin fan-canon has been wrong all along. If that's the case, then what is the point of making a pair of Vocaloids that seem inseparable? Simple, because the idea behind them is simply that they're male and female halves of one Vocaloid; they were even marketed as "two Vocaloids for the price of one". Whether it's meant to be a revolutionary concept or a clever marketing ploy is entirely up for debate.



But regardless of whichever the two they are, they are undoubtedly two halves of a whole; that is part of their characterization. In fact, their first names, Rin and Len are based on Right and Left; and their shared last name, Kagamine, is the combination of the Japanese words "kagami", which means mirror, and "ne", which is roughly translated as sounds - very much true to their "pair" concept. And because they are as such, their signature songs have great blending; and the Vocaloid songs they sing blend a lot better than those compared to other Vocaloids when paired together.

A good example of this is their song Magnet. In addition, they also have the most expansive vocal set among the VOCALOID2 cast. That probably has something to do with them being a duo.

They're not as popular as Hatsune Miku, but the Kagamines are definitely worthy of more attention from Vocaloid fans. After all, they're the only ones who come in two, and their quantity not only beautifies their vocals' quality, but also makes it unique.



**Tokyo Bubble Tea** is a great Japanese place to have your lunch, light snack meals, dinner or even when you come with your sesame street pajamas to have your midnight snacks. It is a great place to hangout with your friends and family where our ambiance encourages fun and laughter from menu, service and comfy place all year round!



### Our Story

Tokyo Bubble Tea restaurant is a Philippine homegrown concept founded and managed by McWilson Group of Restaurants. It all started year 2007 when McWilson Group of Restaurants owners wished to introduce bubble milk tea drinks in Manila, along with Japanese style ambiance and food. The name bubble tea is derived from the drink popularized around Asia and we used it as our brand name to represent us that we specialize in brewing premium milk tea served with the best bubbles.



### Our Product

We brew our tea everyday to give you the top-quality, fresh, healthy and all natural Tea drinks served with fun soft-chewy bubbles, Tokyo style. In addition, we only offer good, healthy and freshly-cooked food to make sure you get the best out of your favorite Japanese cuisine.



Due to overwhelming response of our customers, Bubble Tea is planning to expand its business and open more outlets in and outside Metro Manila.

Currently, Bubble Tea has branches in SM Megamall & SM North EDSA-The Block, which started 2007, and in Tomas Morato, Q.C. & Wilson, Greenhills, which started 2010, at The Fort, which started 2011 and now open at Westgate in Alabang, Harborpoint in Subic, Robinsons Place in Bacolod and Marquee Mall in Pampanga.





Eight high school kids and mysterious deaths entangled

by Elaine

## ChäoS;Child

In October 2015, six years after the destructive earthquake of Shibuya, a group of high school students who are all survivors were gathered as if by fate only to encounter these abnormal occurrences and mysterious deaths of a number of people. **Takuru Miyashiro**, a senior high school and president of the newspaper club, was the first to notice the peculiarity of the deaths. He will investigate the crime scenes with his childhood friend **Serika Onoe** and his foster sister **Nono Kurusu**. Among other characters are the newspaper club members **Hana** and **Shinji**; **Hinae**, an eyewitness to a murder; **Uki**, who has spent years isolated from the world; and **Mio**, a misanthrope who has been sent in to aid the police. Together they will try to uncover the truth behind the cases.

Produced by **Glovision** and **5pb**, **Chaos;Child** is an ongoing anime series based on the visual novel game in the famous **Science Adventure** series. It started airing in January 2017 under Silver Line studios.

**Chaos;Child** is the most-awaited series for those who have been playing the visual novel game and also watching the anime adaptations of the

**Science Adventure** series. This series includes **Chaos;Head** (2008), **Steins;Gate** (2011), and **Robotics;Notes** (2012). At long last, **Chaos;Child** followed this 2017 almost completing the series with only the **Steins;Gate Zero** remaining. **Chaos;Child** is more of a sequel of the first series **Chaos;Head** as the deaths that the protagonists will encounter is parallel to the events in the latter.

**Science Adventure** is primarily released as a visual novel game series developed by **5pb** and **Nitroplus**. Shortly after they released the anime adaptations and received positive response among spectators. The games are known for its remarkable science fiction elements as it discusses real scientific concepts and theories. Of course, these theories were only the footholds for the fictional aspect of the game and therefore incorporates interesting branches in the story. For example, some of the characters possesses superhuman abilities such as accurately pinpointing lies from statements made by other people and using pyrokinesis.

What is the truth behind the unusual deaths? Will Takuru and his friends be able to find their way out of this labyrinth?







The Angel Who is not an Angel

by Elaine

# Gabriel Dropout

She has the most talent in all of heaven. She is the angel for whom everyone has high expectations for the future. She is **Tenma White Gabriel**.

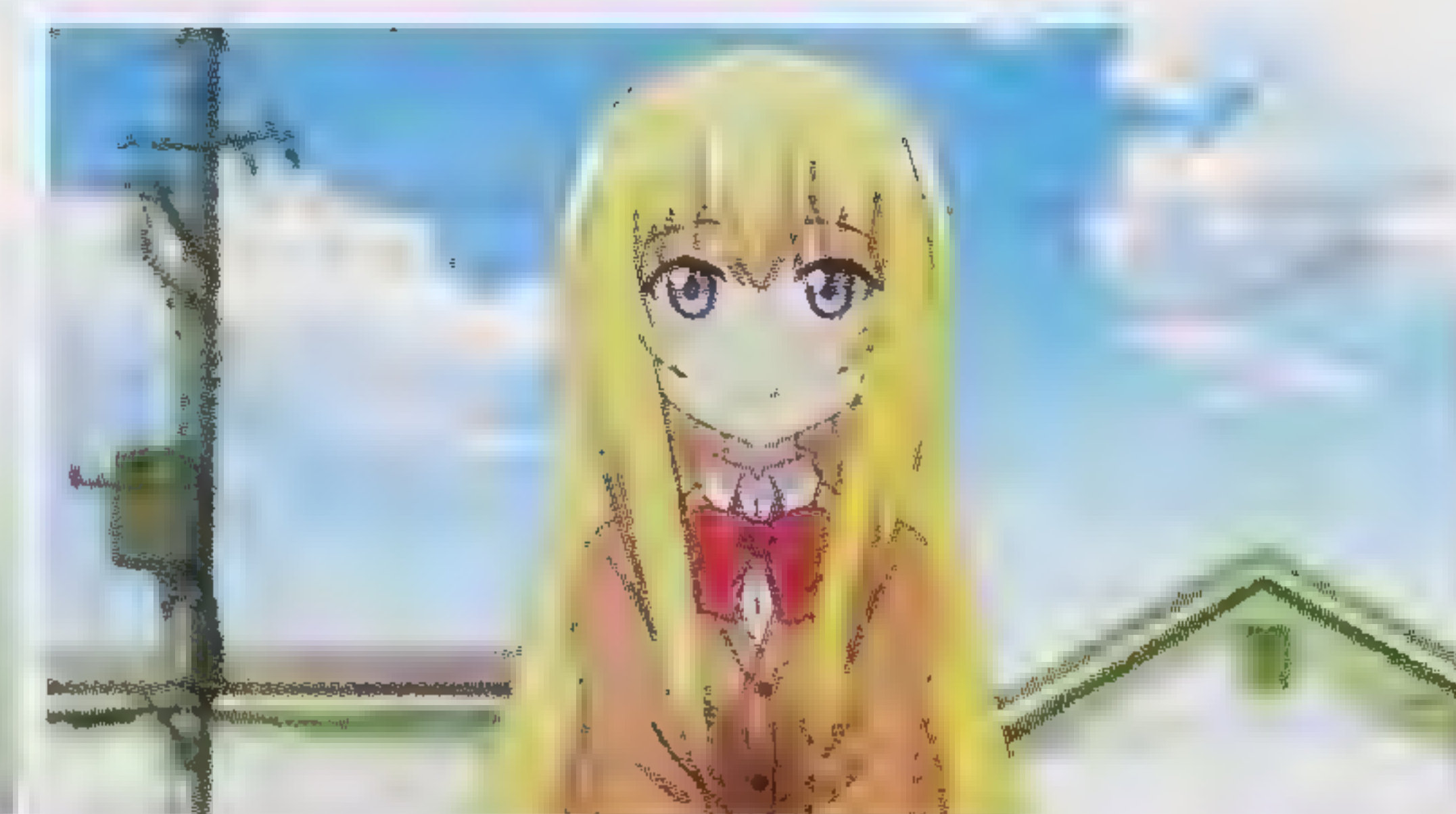
With the intention of learning how to lead humans to happiness and to the right path, Gabriel descended from heaven. However, that's also when she started experiencing what humans do for entertainment. Then in the blink of an eye, she was bewitched by these lazy temptations and ended up living a negligent lifestyle. She is an angel who has become worthless since coming on earth from heaven.

Set to air on January 9, 2017 under **Doga Kobo** studio, **Gabriel Dropout** is an anime adaptation of same-titled manga series written and illustrated by **Ukemi**. The original manga has a total of three volumes as of late, and it is being published by **ASCII Media Works** in the **Comic Dengeki Daioh "g"** since February 2014. Meanwhile, the anime adaptation is directed by **Masahiko Oota** who is also the director of "Himouto! Umaru-chan".

Gabriel will be put into life by **Tomita Miyu**, also the seiyuu of **Taihei Doma** of **Himouto! Umaru-chan**, **Otako** of **Oshiete! Galko-chan** and **Yume Nijino** of **Aikatsu Stars!**. **Hanazawa Kana**, **Oonishi Saori**, and **Oozora Naomi** are also joining in as seiyuus of the other main characters **Shiraha Ainsworth**, **Raphiel**, **tsukinose April Vignette** and **Kurumizawa McDowell Satanichia**, respectively.

**Gabriel Dropout** is a supernatural, comedy, shounen school life anime that will bring overload of fun and moe to the viewers. The irony in the characters' personalities are so cute and would probably be enjoyed mostly by young male viewers. This series shows an interesting combination of an angel in its rebellious state and a demon who is actually just a cute girl who couldn't do real loathable acts. Now who again is our angel?

Join the cute everyday life of our demonic angel and angelic demon who came to lead humanity to their rightful paths!







Soar to that Sky!

by Elaine

# Granblue Fantasy

In Zeinkensitill, the Island of the Sealed, lived a young man who has dreamt of the sky every single day since five years ago. Gran's aim is the "end of the sky", and with that hopes he continued to train himself in the holy grounds without a miss. One day while normally training in the forest, Gran and his companion Vyrn witnessed an Empire Battleship flying above their island. Confused, they tried to ran back into their village in order to protect the people, but then an even more troublesome incident hit them. Lyria, a mysterious girl who seemed to possess an invaluable power, was being chased by the Empire soldiers and so asked him to protect her. Gran willingly helped and fought against the Hydra controlled by the enemy, but to no avail. Gran was about to die, but he was saved by Lyria by linking her own life force to him. They now became connected by body and soul, and thus should not be separated for long.

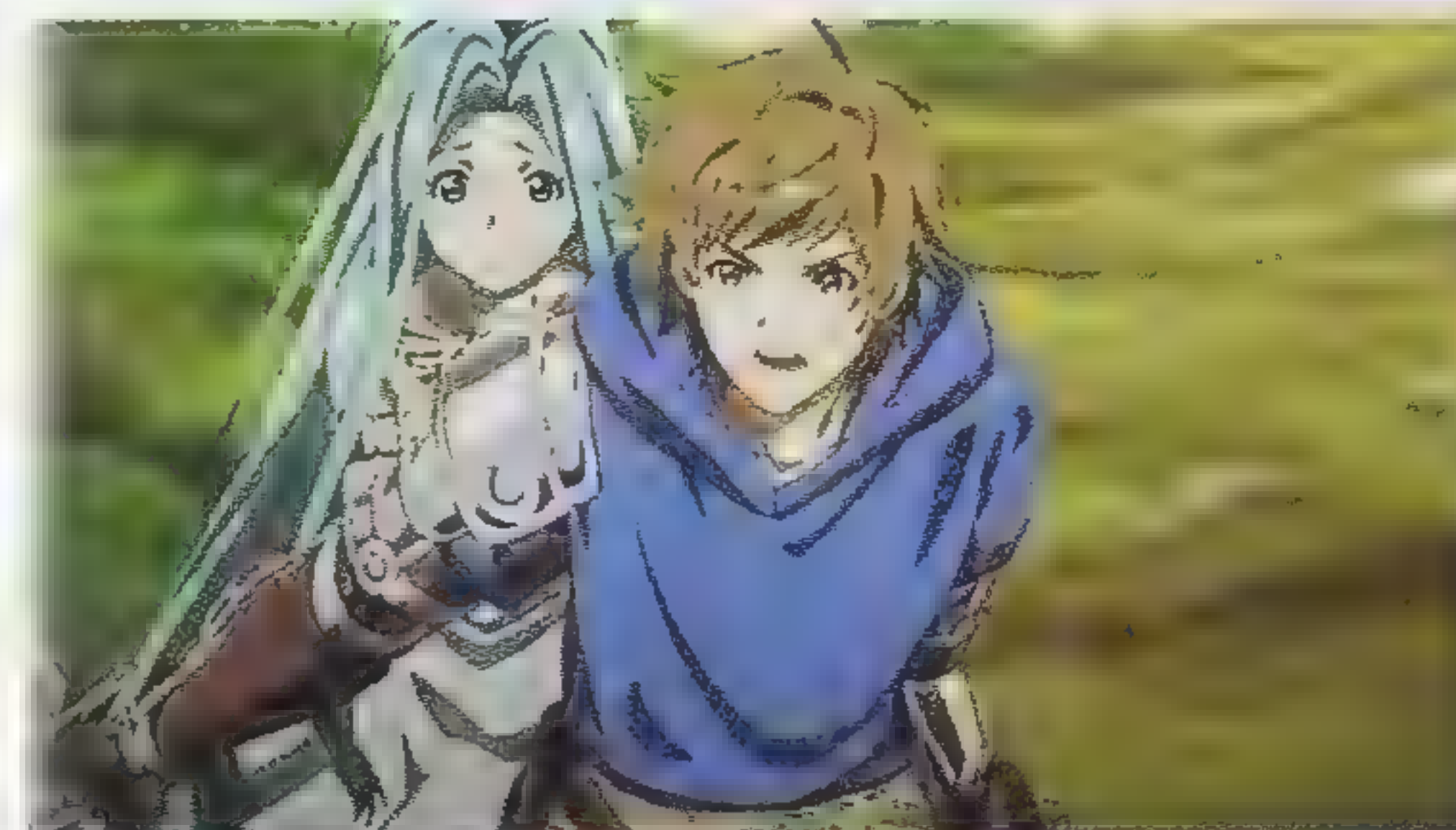
This is the start of his adventure, for he will stay by Lyria's side from now on to protect her forever. Together with Katalina, a female soldier who is also protecting Lyria from the empire, and also Lyrn, they will now set into their endless journey.

Produced by Aniplex and Tohokushinsha Film Corporation, **Granblue Fantasy the Animation** is an anime adaptation of the mobile app game for Android and IOS which was released in December 2013. Prior to this, a manga adaptation of the game which was illustrated by Kendi Oiwa and written by Makoto Fugetsu was also released last April 2016. The premiere will start on January 2017.

The anime is directed by Yuuki Itoh at A-1 Pictures, and the character designs is lead by Toshifumi Akai. Nobuo Uematsu and Tsutomu Narita, who are known for the music of Final Fantasy games I-XI and Final Fantasy XIV, respectively, are composing the music while **BUMP OF CHICKEN** will perform the anime's theme song.

One more thing to look forward to in this anime is the casting of seiyuus. The main character Gran will be starred by Yuuki Ono, who is famous for Kagami Taiga of Kuroko no Basuke and Isami Aldini of Shokugeki no Souma. Lyria will be casted by Nao Toyama, Lyrn by Rie Kugimiya and Catalina by Miyuki Sawashiro.

Follow Gran's story not only in game but also in anime! Look forward to the intense monster battles finally in an animation!







Substitute Lovers

by Elaine

# Kuzu no Honkai

A fruitless love. A painful love. A one-sided love.

Awaya Mugi and Yasuraoka Hanabi is the perfect couple. Both are beautiful, smart, and popular in school. They are going out and everyone is jealous. However, that is not all there is to it. Awaya is in love with his home tutor Minagawa Akane. Yasuraoka is in love with his 'onii-chan' who has been a friend to her family since she was little. Both of those are teachers in their school, so while watching over their unrequited love, they somehow found themselves comforting each other. However, it is not that kind of comfort. They don't love each other. Instead, they promised to be together just to fill the gaps caused by loneliness in their hearts. They say it was for the benefit of each other, and so they continue this complicated relationship.

Produced by Fuji TV, Kuzu no Honkai is anime adaptation of the ongoing manga series currently comprised of seven volumes. The manga is written by Yokoyari Mengo and being published by Square Enix since 2012. Fuji TV announced the

premiere of this anime to be on January 2017.

Kuzu no Honkai (Scum's Wish) is a romance, slice of life story, which even though has school as its setting, is very mature and more suited for adult fans. It is not recommended for young spectators, as there are sensitive scenes that they might not be able to understand. The story is solemn, without a hint of fun conversation most readers like, but that is because the story focuses on different kinds of hurt people experience. Sometimes we need this kind of series: something that is a reflection of reality. There is so much hurt, hate, and loneliness that you will see in it, but somehow once you started it you cannot stop. All because you would wonder: will they be able to find the happiness they are yearning for? They are all twisted.

Every single one is complicated because of love.

Are you one of them?







I'll Make you Fall in Love

by Yani

## Masamune-kun no Revenge

All of us have friends that we cherish. We share with them the good times and the bad times we had. There are times that we've betrayed by them which really hurt from the inside. How did you cope with it? Did you confront them about it or perhaps you will have your revenge on them?

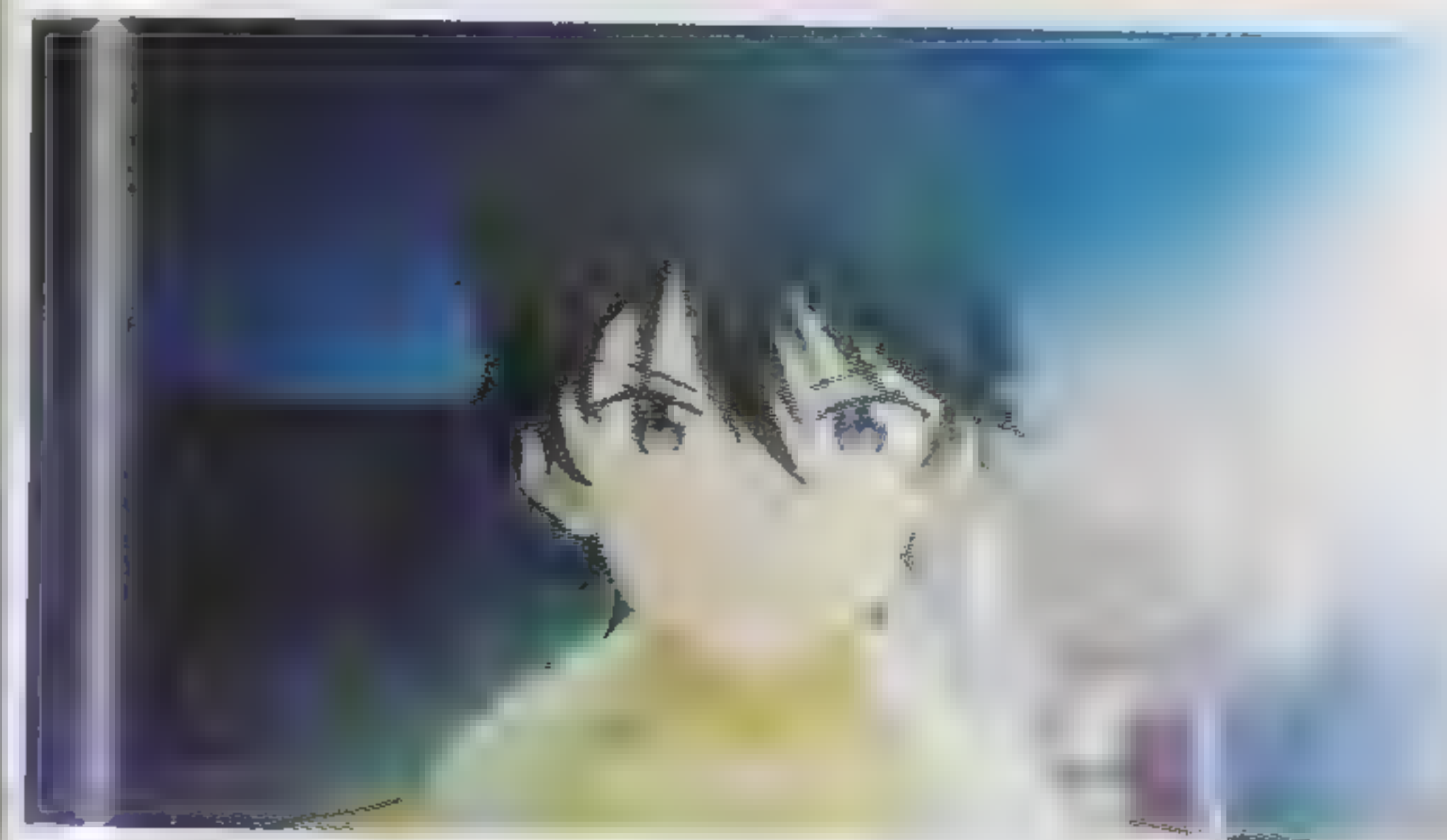
Makabe Masamune was chubby when he was still a kid resulting from having bullies. One day, Aki Adagaki saved him from them and the two became friends. One day when Makabe was gathering flowers in the park to cheer up Aki, he encountered again his bullies and ran up again in Aki's house and asked for her help. Aki came into view and told Makabe that "I can't really come to like you, Piggy" which shattered Makabe's heart and was humiliated from the bullies. Because of this incident, he decided to loseweight with the help of his grandfather.

Makabe succeeded, he was known among the girls in his school not only for his looks, but also his intelligence and nice personality. Unknown to him, Aki was also studying in his school and known from rejecting every confession that she receives and giving them awful

nicknames. When Makabe learned about this and it was Aki, the girl who crushed his heart, he decided to make her fall in love in him and then have his revenge to her. Will Makabe succeed with his plan or it will fail and Aki will humiliate him again for the second time?

Masamune-kun no Revenge is a Japanese romantic-comedy manga written by Hazuki Takeoka and illustrated by Tiv. An anime adaptation series by Silver Link will be aired this January 2017.

Rom-com anime is popular among the community so if you're looking from another one then I will recommend you to watch this! There will be a plot twist (If you read the manga then you will know what it is) which is really shocking and you should definitely watch out. The revenge plan of Makabe wasn't bad after all since he decided to better himself instead of grieving of the hurtful words that he received from Aki which made him interesting as a character. Another thing is that will he make Aki fall in love with him or it will be the other way; him falling in love again with her? Let's find out!







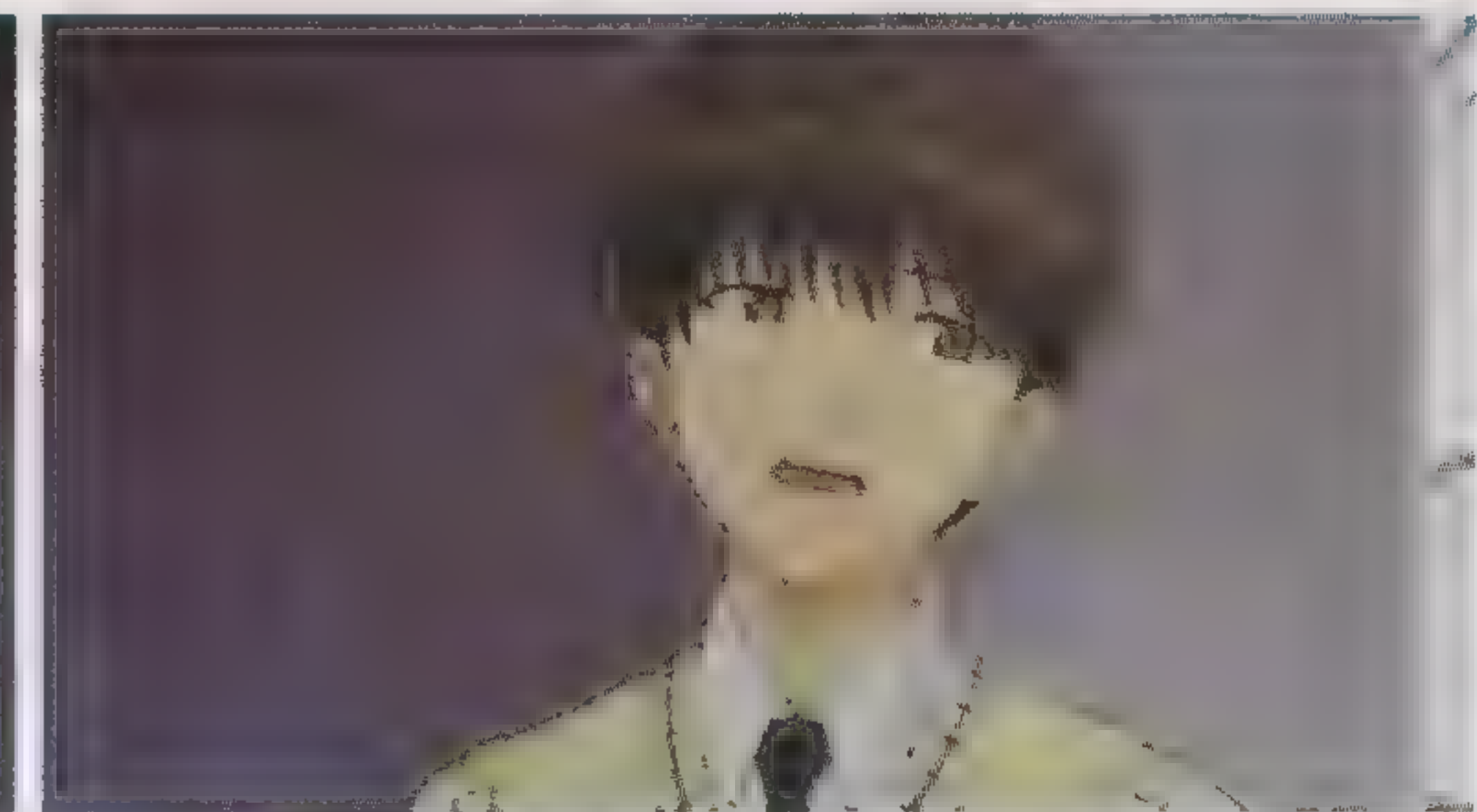
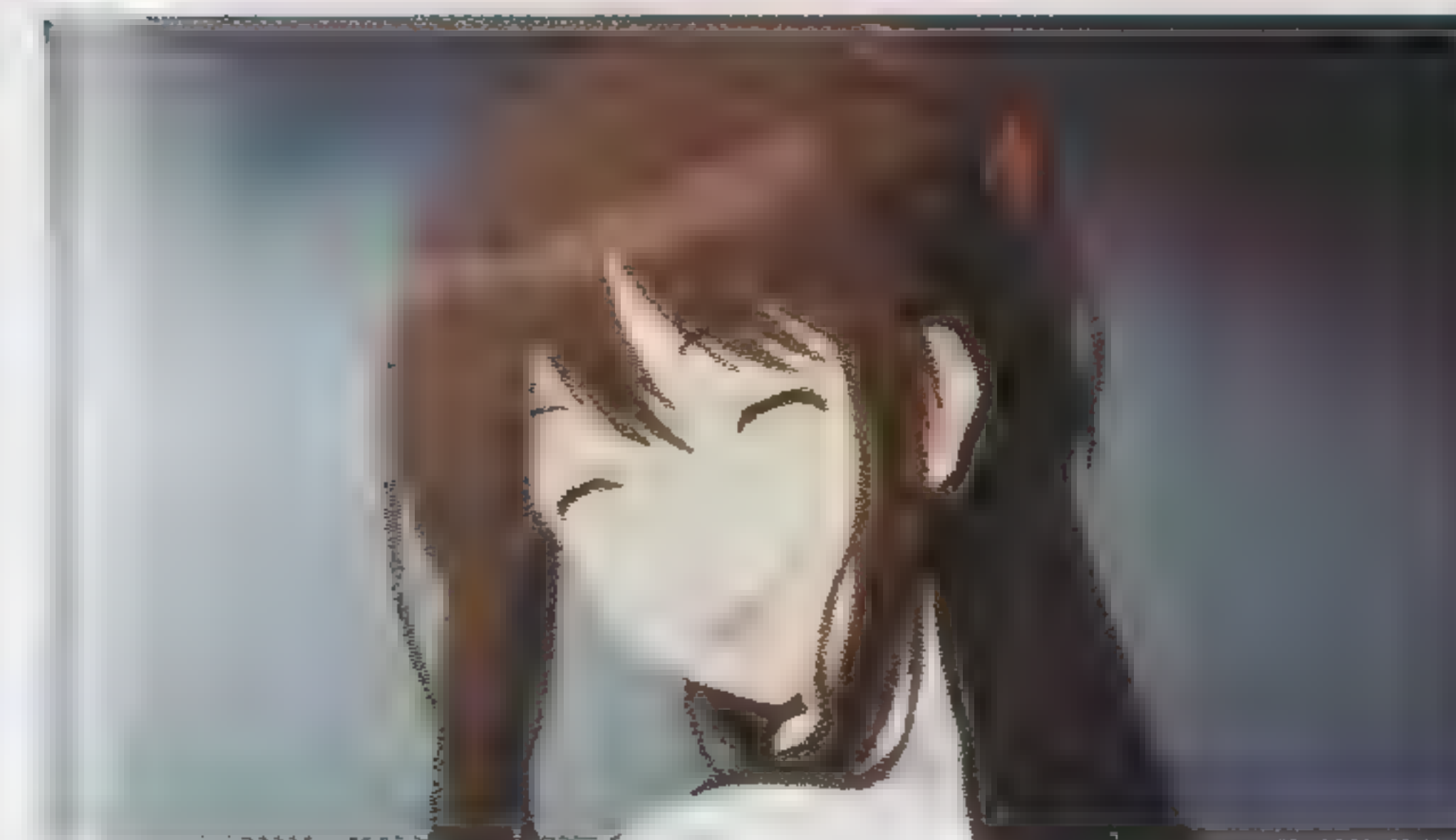
# クオの来懐

Seiren

For the Future

by Yami

## Seiren



Whenever a person reached Highschool in Japan, they have choices on what to do after Graduation; whether they go to College, start working immediately or help out with family business if your family has one.

Shouichi Kamita is a highschool student who has not yet decided what path should he take after college. His teacher suggested that he should be a manga artist however he hasn't tried drawing one yet. Hikari Tsuneki, a classmate of him always teases him whether is he a pervert or gay which made him uncomfortable all the time.

Despite Hikari's teasing, he has a crush on her which he doesn't admit. On his way home one day, he passed by a newly opened pastry shop and he saw Hikari working hard there. Because of that, he decided to take the summer prep school that his bestfriend Ikuo Nanasaki offered him. He believes that

going to the prep school will help him know what path/field he should take after graduating from highschool.

Seiren is a Japanese romantic comedy anime series by Studio Gokumi and AXsiZ. It's an original story by Kisai Takayama and directed by Tomoki Kobayashi which started airing this January 2016.

One of the things to be anticipated with the anime is its art. It's like watching an animated manga with colors. This is a sequel from the anime Amagami SS but a different timeline. Since Amagami is a visual novel game then the story will revolve among the girls shown in the opening of the anime and Shouichi's interaction to them. I would categorize also this anime as slice of life which makes it interesting to watch because it goes with a romance and comedy genre into it.







# HOT ANIME

by James



## リトル ウィッチ アカデミア Little Witch Academia



If you want to watch a magical school anime but don't have the time to invest in an entire season or two, then I got a good recommendation for you. It's only twenty minutes long, but despite the rather short playtime, it manages to tell a story about believing in one's self, which is the greatest magic of all. It's no other than **Little Witch Academia**.

The twenty minute anime short by Trigger is about **Atsuko Kagari**, Akko for short. She wanted to be a witch ever since she laid eyes on the world-renowned witch **Shiny Chariot**, so she decided to enroll in **Luna Nova Magical Academy**, hoping to walk in the same footsteps as her idol.

But witching school isn't as exciting as Akko hoped to be, and on top of that she's having a hard time with her studies, as she's not exactly gifted with the magical arts. To make matters even worse, her open admiration for Shiny Chariot is making her a bit of a laughingstock, as most witches think Akko's role model gives their kind a bad image.

All of these things dampen Akko's spirits a bit, but they can't really quench her belief not only in Shiny Chariot, but

also and more importantly in herself, so she continues to strive in proving herself worthy as a witch. And when she's given a chance to save the day, she does in the most inspiring way possible.

Twenty minutes is definitely not enough to fully explore a character or completely flesh out a world, but **Little Witch Academia** manages to establish what kind of person Akko and the other characters are, and what kind of realm they move in. The art, which is vividly colored and is of signature Trigger's lighthearted cartoon style, also helps in setting up the feel of the anime. But **Little Witch Academia** isn't about the magical atmosphere or a grandiose character development; it's more about sending a simple yet strong message about believing in one's self, which the twenty-minute short manages to deliver in a predictable yet enjoyable and heartwarming fashion.

If you're a fan of magical anime, Trigger, both, or you're just looking for a good anime short to fill your time, then you can't go wrong with **Little Witch Academia**. Believe this review, the same way Akko believes in Shiny Chariot.





## IMAGINATION = REALITY ALICE TO ZOUROKU



It is any young mind's dream to turn what they can think into sweet reality. Luckily for some group of small girls, they do possess this kind of ability called "**Alice's Dream**" and can therefore make wishes come true. However, due to this ability, they became subjects of an underground research and were trapped in a secret laboratory. One day, **Sana**, one of the gifted girls, outwitted the scientists and was able to escape using her power called "**The Red Queen**". This ability allows her to alter reality by ignoring the laws of Physics and physically manifest anything that she can imagine. She was finally able to break free, and she meets an old man named **Zouroku Kashimura**. He is an ill-tempered ojii-san who dislikes all sorts of interruptions in his everyday life.

Written by **Tetsuya Imai**, **Alice to Zouroku** (Alice and Zouroku) is an

ongoing seinen manga published by **Tokuma Shoten** in its monthly **Comic Ryu** magazine. The release started in December 2012 and the manga has currently a total of seven volumes published. In 2013, moreover, the manga has won the **New Face Award** in the 17th Japan Media Arts Festival Awards.

Meanwhile, an anime adaptation was announced to air soon as indicated in the cover of its January 2017 issue. All details regarding the upcoming anime and also the informations about the manga are available in their official website.  
<http://www.alicetozouroku.com/>.

A fortunate escape and timely meeting with an edgy old man. Will Sana become truly free through the help of Zouroku? Stop imagining and maybe take the real deal through this flower-filled story!



## DANSAN JOSHI

What do high school students usually talk about outside academics? Is it always love? Relationships? Family? Clubs? No! It could also be the weirdest and most ordinary happenings in their life.

**Dansan Joshi** is an unusual story featuring seven high school kids and their abnormal conversations. Some days they talk about dirty jokes, or at times it could be about the hair growth happening in different parts of their body due to puberty. It is truly comedic and would be a good read if all you want is to laugh and hear about super unique jokes. Well it is shounen so it would be most enjoyed by young boys to read.

Started in 2014, **Dansan Joshi** has five volumes as of late and is currently being published by Kodansha in its **Bessatsu Shonen Magazine**. The

Started in 2014, **Dansan Joshi** has five volumes as of late and is currently being published by Kodansha in its **Bessatsu Shonen Magazine**. The author **Mizu Asato** have created already around 20 short series, some of which are doujinshis, and mostly of the comedy genre. Two of these works are **IK-On! Anthology Comic** and a doujinshi of **Love Live!** which were released in 2009 and 2014, respectively.

Though most of the time would make you blurt out "what the?", **Dansan Joshi** just shows what some high school kids these days would normally talk about. Just make sure though that you are also prepared to see some out-of-this-world scenarios that you couldn't think possible. The art is also decent and the characters are drawn really cute, just like almost chibi high school students.





## KANOJO NI AWASERU KAO NO GAI

by Kanddy

They say that looks matter when it comes in love. Everyone would like to spend their time with someone who is easy on the eyes. However, what about Mutou's situation where he doesn't have a head at all???

Mutou Monji is a high school student who was born with no face. He's fallen in love with his childhood friend, Noyama Kaori. She can't see his expressions nor his gaze, but still they understand one another. A man's charms don't rest on his face!

All common sense comes flying off the window in this manga, *Kanojo Ni Awaseru Kao No Gai* by Iwaaki Haru. This supernatural, romance comedy will surprise you at every turn. Not only is it weird that the main character has no head/ face, the mangaverse seems to accept the fact and live with it. There are even a few antics that will send you laughing.

What we love about this manga is the romance of it all. Kaori-chan seems to be the tomboy and a very outgoing person that everyone loves. She is athletic and fun to boot but is also very perceptive of Mutou. Just from his voice and body language, she can tell what he is feeling and this fuels his emotions towards her even more. Anyone would be happy to be understood well and Kaori definitely understands him the most.

The maga has the comedic feeling of a 4-koma manga but isn't which makes it even more interesting. The flow of events are also interesting since we not only follow the day-to-day of Monji but also several other side characters who share their own funny antics.

This is a manga for those who would love to ease off some stress. Lay back and laugh along with Mutou-kun and Kaori-chan~



## TWIN DOLL NO HAKONIWA

Twins share everything... or do they?

In a magical land blessed with scenery, there lived a pair of twins; Gisel and Gilbert Hampton...

They twin gold wands known as *Golden Dream Needles*. Their wands allow them to use thread like magic to mend and breathe life into objects. Gisel grew up to be a kind nurse while the younger Gilbert became a stuffed animal craftsman at his favorite toy store. However, reality was harsh on Gisel and she is clumsy and unpopular at work. An accident happened during a festival which took many lives and dismembered many bodies. Gisel took it upon herself to mend the bodies back together and return them to their families but at what price?

The manga, *Twin Doll no Hakoniwa* is a fantasy, mystery work

by Chino Machiko. Right now, they only have one chapter in full color.

Visual candy are the words I want to say when recommending this manga. There are many full color online manga these days but this one in particular looks very pleasing, soft and exudes fantasy. There is magic, love and extraordinary mystery. There are moments when the story becomes in depth and confusing but it is all to make readers look closer and pay attention.

While we understand that full color mangas take time to make, chapter two is very much in demand right after the cliffhanger ending of the first one. We look forward to the preceding chapters and where the magic will take us.

Mystery and magic? Yes. Familial love and joy all around!! Enjoy~





## OMOI, OMOWARE, FURI, FURARE

Yuna is your shy girl who keeps her head down. Her best friend is moving away and she feels like it's the end. However, she meets an outgoing neighbor who understands her, Akari. Then she meets Akari's brother, Rio and falls inlove?

OMOI, OMOWARE, FURI, FURARE is a shoujo manga that revolves around four friends. All of them have contrasting ideas of love and of how to get by. Two friends, Yuna and Akari met in a strange fashion but quickly became friends. Yuna is someone who sees love as a dream and Akari is someone who is very realistic about her romance choices. Meanwhile, there are two boys, Kazuomi and Rio, who also have different views of love: Kazuomi's an airhead and doesn't understand the concept of love while Rio grabs the opportunity when confessed to as long as the girl looks cute.

The manga written and drawn by Sakisaka Io is ongoing and has five volumes. The art is really cute, light and sparkly. The story is a bit heavy as sensei could have given the characters all sorts of relationship woes to better explain their different take and perspective on love. You would not believe the things these kids go through!

After I've said that you might think that these are still young hearts and they could be easily mistaken as "young love". However, the flow of events will show you that the characters take it seriously and that they are feeling real love for the first time. All by themselves and with only the help of one another.

The manga is a good read and their decisions will surprise you tenderly. This is a recommended manga for the young lovers and those who haven't had their first love yet. These characters are amazing.



## FUTARIBEYA

There is a high school where students are required to either live in the dormitories or the apartment. Sakurako decides on the apartment and goes on to live with a lazy, beautiful classmate, Kasumi.

Futaribeya, by Yukiko, is a 4-panel comic strip about two girls who share an off-campus apartment close to their school. Sakurako lives relatively far away and so her parents wanted her to room with someone else. Her roommate is Kasumi, a beautiful girl, who always has a part-time job, does some light magazine modeling, is always hot and has narcolepsy. Sakurako is the responsible one, Kasumi is a layabout at home, because she works so hard.

The manga is often tagged as yuri but has no actual girl-to-girl love. The manga actually is more of a comedy,

slice of life 4-koma manga. The art is pretty simple and mostly chibi. The feeling you get is very comical and light. There are no over-the-top drama going on and the scenes change very quickly.

One of the things that bother me was the lack of male characters. The school setting is a co-ed but there are literally no male students throughout the 12 chapters. Sakurako's younger brother and the dorm head are the only males ever seen. A story does not exist since this is a 4-koma comedy but the crazy antics of the two are funny enough to keep you going for the next page.

I initially expected yuri based on the cover but that is all implied and headcanon. However, there are times when your heart will gooo squee~~ since a joke could get them closer in a way?





## CAPITALISM, HO!

By Reikisha

The Humans, Sprites, and Kindred have lived harmoniously as a single community despite their culture differences. The commercially-developed town of Notte Luce is the perfect place to see these races coexisting with one another. In this town, the rivalry between shopkeepers grew intense every single day as they try to prove themselves as the best merchant in the archipelago.

AL-FINE is a tycoon simulation role playing game developed by CrimsonRabbit and published by Sekai Project. The game was released in Steam on November 11, 2016.

### GAMEPLAY

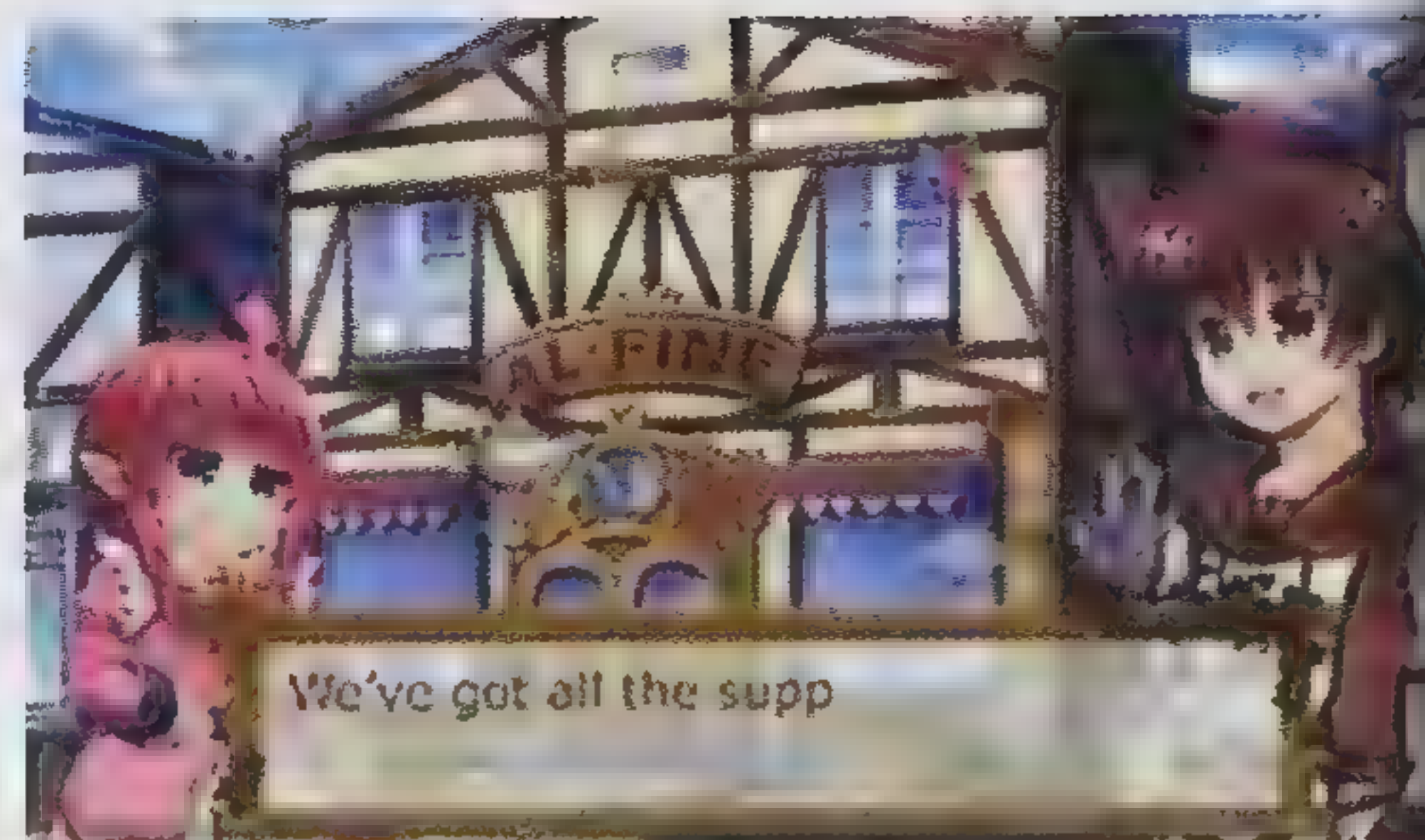
AL-FINE's main gameplay is to manage Louis' newly-established shop by buying and selling items. The player must pay attention to the weather, time of day, and the supply and demand of an item as these three factors will make or break Louis' store. Another source of income are rare items from dungeons. In this case, the player can hire adventurers to gather potential merchandise for them.

At some point in the game, the player can expand and customize Louis' shop. Aside from giving the shop interior a more presentable look, expanding it allows the player to increase the number of merchandise that can be displayed at once, sell larger items, and many more.

### REVIEW

If you're familiar with Recettear, then you pretty much have an idea about what this game is about. But for those who haven't played it yet, that will be a game review in a future magazine issue.

AL-FINE is a simple game where you apply what you've learned in your economics class back in high school. The reason why it's important to have at least



basic knowledge in economics when playing AL-FINE is because of the realistic presentation of how things like supply and demand affects the price and selling rate of every single item in the shop.

Compared to Recettear, AL-FINE is a hit-or-miss. While the graphics are pleasing to the eyes, has a brighter story, and implemented a few unique features, the overall gameplay feels lackluster. The dungeon-crawling part has been replaced with having the adventurer explore alone and go back to the store with the loot after 3 days. It's critical flaws are the bugs and glitches that may cause the game to crash, making AL-FINE to be almost unplayable. It also runs on a 800x600 window resolution and it's impossible to configure it.

Although it's not worthy of being dubbed as Recettear's successor, AL-FINE was still able to give its players a fun time. However, it's better to get this game when it's on-sale next time.

## WAR ON PROTOLEXA

By Reikisha

### GAMEPLAY

The player's leader character will explore a dungeon in a side-view camera angle. When in combat phase, the player can command their 4-man party to attack by pressing a button depending on their position in the party. One character can perform a maximum of three attack moves, but can loop the combo until the action gauge depletes. Combo attacks by using two or more characters is also a good strategy if the player wants to quickly fill up the "Greed" meter.

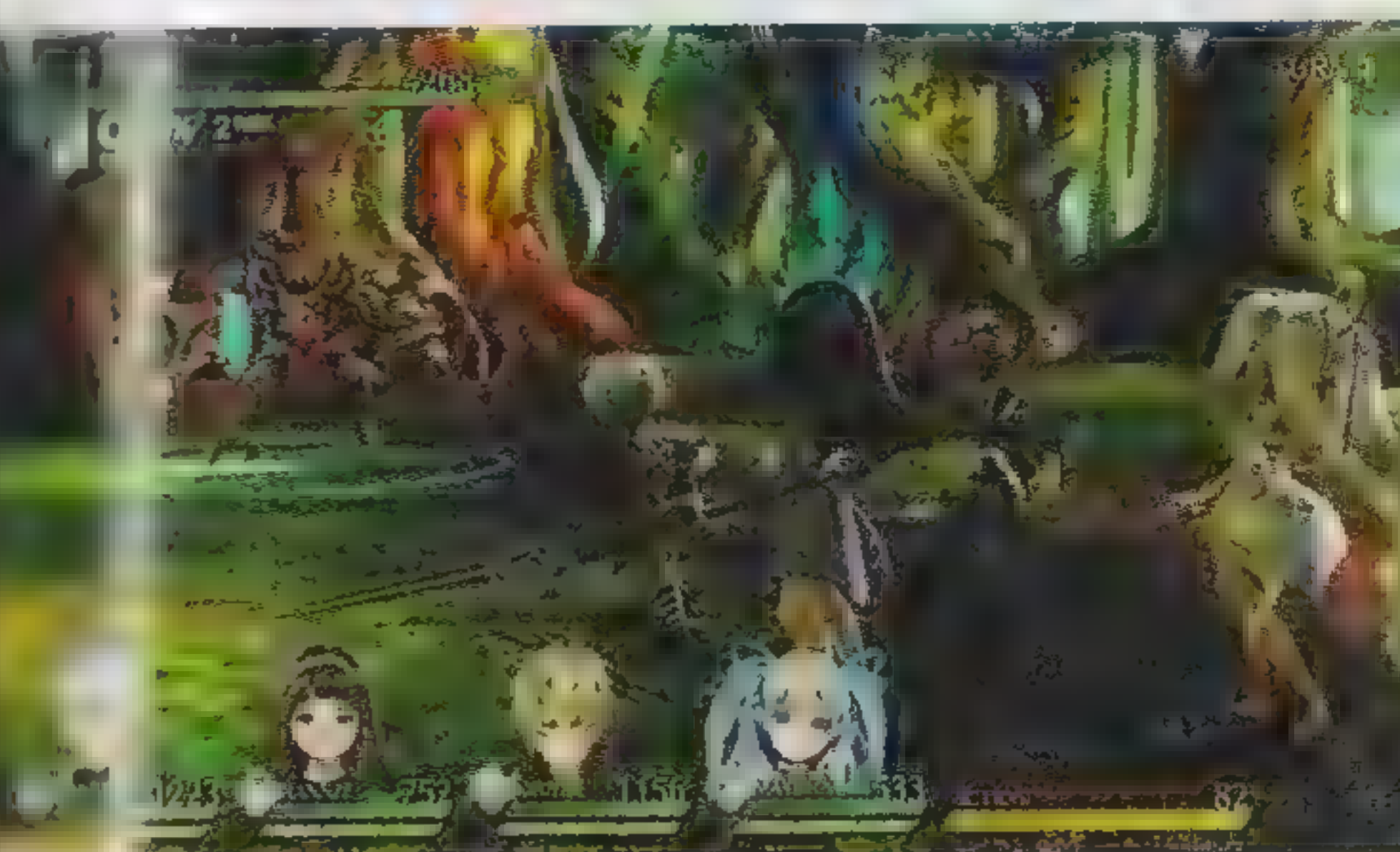
In the camp menu, players can select up to four members that will go on an expedition while the remaining characters can scavenge for items. They can also learn new skills that will either give additional damage to their combo patterns and/or increase their chances of survival in battle.

### REVIEW

The main plot of Exist Archive is like a series of fetch quests players must go through in-order to get the upgrades and learn more about a character's backstory before they got transported to Protolexa. Players will also need to backtrack to previously explored dungeons so that they go to new areas they missed on their first run.

The combat phase of the game is strangely fun, until you realize that it has framerate issues if you're playing the PS Vita version. Because of this, it's impossible to send all four characters to attack at once. On the bright side though, it encourages its players to find synergy with two or more characters in their lineup for chain combos. Chaining combos quickly fills the special attack meter called "Greed" and it can be stored up to 400%.

"Is Exist Archive a good game?" you asked. Well, it may have its ups and downs, but it's definitely worth a try. If you don't mind doing repetitive tasks in-order to get what you want in this game, then perhaps you might enjoy Exist Archive. It's no Valkyrie Profile, but after spending hours playing the game, you will see why people refer it as the spiritual successor of a once beloved classic.



Kanata Kujo and a few individuals got wrapped up in a mysterious accident in modern day Tokyo as unfortunate casualties. However, their death was more like a way for them to be transported into the technologically advanced planet known as "Protolexa".

It was revealed that an evil god named Yamatoga aims to resurrect himself by uniting the twelve individuals housing a fragment of his soul—which grants the hosts the curse of immortality. It was later revealed that Amatsume, Protolexa's guardian, had to kill off all of Yamatoga's unfortunate vessels and bring them together in one place in-order to prevent his resurrection on a foreign planet. Meanwhile, the leader of the Chasseur race named Zenobia wishes to see Yamatoga's goal succeed for her own benefit.

What will be the humans' stance in a situation where they can hardly trust every sentient being in Protolexa?

Exist Archive: The Other Side of the Sky is a role-playing game developed and published by Spike Chunsoft with assistance from Tri-Ace for the PlayStation 4 and the PlayStation Vita.



# STRIKE FAST, AZURE LIGHTNING!

By Reikisha

In the distant future, several people with septimal powers are called "adepts". Their septimal powers enable them to perform superhuman feats such as flight and control basic elements like fire, wind, and electricity. The world is now at peace due to the efforts of a massive conglomerate known as the Sumeragi Group. However, the Sumeragi Group is, in reality, conducting experiments on adepts behind the scenes.

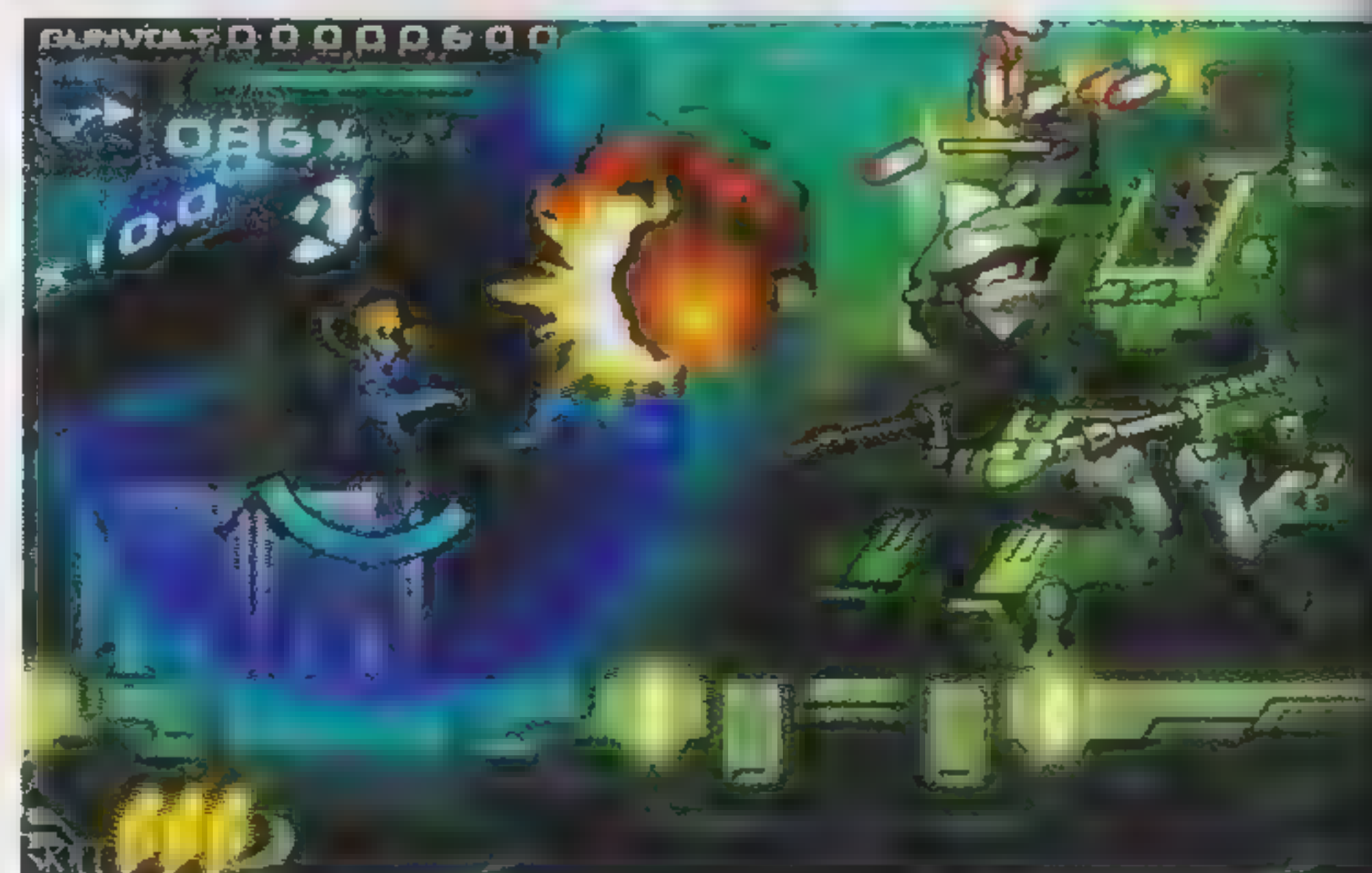
Meet Gunvolt, a member of a secret organization that aims to reveal and put a stop to the Sumeragi Group's evil ambitions. When Gunvolt discovers that his assassination target lives inside a young girl named Joule, he decided to defect from the organization and work as an independent unit in-order to protect her.

Azure Striker Gunvolt, also known as Armed Blue: Gunvolt in Japan, is a 2D platformer game developed by Inti Creates for the Nintendo 3DS in August 20, 2014. The game also got a PC release via Steam on August 28, 2015, featuring full Japanese voice option and some lines that are removed from the 3DS version.

## GAMEPLAY

Players take the role of Gunvolt, a powerful adept with the ability to create and manipulate lightning. He utilizes a special handgun that tag its targets, and grants a homing effect to Gunvolt's lightning. Aside from using lightning as his main offensive weapon, Gunvolt can also use his septima power to give him a speed boost, surround himself with a lightning barrier, and slows his descent from a high place.

Gunvolt can use up to three abilities that he can learn as the story progresses.



## REVIEW

Overall, Azure Striker Gunvolt is a challenging platformer game that offers high replayability just from the optional challenges alone. Setting up the difficulty level higher after beating the game one will definitely test your skills as a platformer expert. It also encourages people to be tactical when clearing a stage instead of blitzing through the boss area since the overall score you get matters a lot.

Those who grew up playing Megaman games in the past will definitely play this game on either versions. But for the best Gunvolt experience, it's highly recommended to get the Steam version.



# SLASHING COLD STEEL

By Reikisha

## REVIEW

ICEY's fast-paced gameplay, remarkable graphic design, memorable soundtrack, and quirky narrative approach are so great that it's hard to believe that a small team of indie game developers created it. What made its gameplay more enjoyable is that players can take advantage of ICEY's ability to dodge and counterattack. For every successful riposte, players are rewarded with flashy-but-satisfying takedowns.

The narrator plays a huge role in ICEY's adventure. Following its counsel will undoubtedly lead the player to ICEY's main objective, but defying it will cause the narrator to interact with both ICEY and the player for making decisions it never suggested. There are many possible routes and easter eggs hidden in the game, so exploring the game world without listening to the narrator's advice might be a good idea.

As a side-scroller game, ICEY is challenging, but not extremely difficult. Even though players can mindlessly button-smash their way through regular hostiles, boss battles may require strategic play such as knowing when to counterattack or dodge and perform an aerial rave. The only downside to this game is that the overall gametime is short.

Should you pick this game up? Absolutely!

Since the game was able to provide an unforgettable gaming experience despite the short gametime, it's safe to say that ICEY is worth your P400 or \$11 Steam Wallet credits.

A lone female cyborg suddenly finds herself in an abandoned laboratory. Upon leaving the facility, she discovers that she is in a futuristic world where hostile mechanical units are out for her blood. Without any memories of her own, the girl known as "ICEY" embarks on a journey to learn more about the unfamiliar world, hoping to piece together fragments of her memory along the way. But with an omnipresent voice serving as her guide, will ICEY achieve her goal by simply following its directions?

ICEY is a 2D side-scrolling action RPG indie game developed by Shanghai FantaBlade Network Technology Co., Ltd. and published by X.D. Network Inc. The game was released on Steam on November 17, 2016 and can be purchased for P399.95.

## GAMEPLAY

ICEY is a combination of a traditional 2D side scroller, hack-&-slash, and roguelike RPG. The objective is to simply clear waves of hostile enemies as you progress through the game. By collecting enough credits, ICEY can learn and upgrade abilities that will give her the edge against her foes. ICEY is also a meta game in-disguise, so the player has the option to either follow or disobey the narrator.





Who says the game is over once the UAAP season ends? No one knows for sure how the rivalry began (actually, someone might) but we know that it is amazing to watch the two schools battle it out on the field: Ateneo Blue Eagles versus La Salle Green Archers!!

Most Played Games is one of the hardest to search for. Google will actually give you actual "most played games" lists and top tens. But it is an actual game company in the Philippines!

They made one of my favorite games: Make Tusok the Fishball where I am still a noob at. My best score is 25. I know I could do better but I also remember that I sucked at Flappy Bird.

This game, Make Tuka Green Archer:

is a very popular game actually and has good reviews. It has 1 thousand downloads (Google Play) and rated 4.8 by 210 players.

From the time of publication, the game was last updated Jul 10, 2016 for Version 4.0 and we hope that next season UAAP will change that. We want more archers!

The game is fun and all you have to do is TAKE REVENGE... virtually. Drop poop bombs, swoop in to attack and get even. The game has simple graphics and focuses more on the action!

The game is fun to play and addicting. Good toilet game for those long sits. Enjoy!

One other game by Most Played Games is Impossible Charge where you fill out a virtual phone battery icon with charge based on the number given. I find it to be more challenging than the fishball game but I can't pass on a good time wasting game.

Most Played Games is gre. With that we meant that the developers are from that school in Taft and they made this game and many more games. They are fun people.

This next game is Make Pana Blue Eagle and you should know that other schools make a cameo in this game as well. This game will help you kill both time and birds. Shoot em with a bow and arrow or use a bazooka because they can afford... ehem.

Other than my irk for ads in apps, this takes off the stress more than the game on the other page. Like I hate birds more than humans? No, I just suck at it.

This game is currently in Version 5.3 and was last updated on July 7, 2016. The download size is 23.58 MB and will take no effort to download.

Their newer game is Flippy Bottle Extreme which I have not yet downloaded but it garnered the honor of being in the gameanalytics.com top 10 2016 games. It currently has five million downloads and 4.4 score on Google Play. We would look into this one for sure.

Enjoy shooting birds~







BITZ



## THE ASSASSIN FAILED HIS CREED

by kandy

*"These are the sacred tenets of our brotherhood: to stay your blade from the flesh of the innocent, to hide in the plain sight, and above all else, never to compromise the brotherhood." -Cal Lynch*

I am going to level with you, I never played the game because I have no console. However, it did not stop me from watching Youtube walkthroughs, reading the books, following the updates and loving the franchise. So when Sony Pictures announced a live action movie, I was hopeful and doe-eyed. I never watched a trailer to spoil me. My mistake.

Opening night came soon after the Metro Manila Film Festival. The action adventure film is based on the video game, *Assassin's Creed*. Directed by Justin Kurzel, written by Michael Lesslie, Adam Cooper and Bill Collage. The film stars Michael Fassbender, Marion Cotillard, Jeremy Irons, Brendan Gleeson and Michael K. Williams. The film received negative reviews and grossed \$185 million worldwide.

The story adapted the idea of the *Assassin Creed*, *Animus*, *Abstergo* and the costume (as Ubisoft handed production their game designs for reference) but nothing else. Even the story. I still have to praise the quality of the stunts as they were almost all performed in real without CGI. The producers did their best to make the movie look as realistic as possible even with the Leap of Faith.

Despite this, what disappointed many including me was the story, script and flow of events which wasted everything they worked for. There were ommittable useless scenes, 60% of their script was to sound cool and effortless and most of all, character relationships that were beyond complicated. Having an original story was Jean-Julien Baronnet, CEO of Paris-based Ubisoft Motion Pictures, decision and I agree with them but there are better written stories in fanfiction sites.

*"Welcome to the Spanish Inquisition." -Dr. Sophia Rikkin*

And Spanish Inquisition it is. Purify this movie of its sins and drive it out. When a rumor of a sequel went around, I paled. Despite *Assassin's Creed* being a Western game, Hollywood made a way to ruin that too almost like that movie adaptation of an *Airbender* named *Aang*.



## ROGUE ONE: A STAR WARS STORY

by mikelle

*"Rebel spies managed to steal secret plans to the Empire's ultimate weapon, the Death Star"*

Before welcoming the Metro Manila Film Festival, we all had the chance to catch Lucasfilm's first Star Wars standalone film, *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story*. The story introduces Jyn Erso and her journey of retrieving the Death Star's schematics in order to destroy the Death Star itself. Ironically, she also happens to be the daughter of the unwilling designer of the super weapon Death Star.

*Rogue One: A Star Wars Story* is an epic space opera film produced by Lucasfilm, directed by Gareth Edwards and distributed by Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures. It has been planned out to be the very first Star Wars standalone spin-off and was intended not to crossover with any of the previous Star Wars films.

Fans that were waiting for the continuation of Rey and Finn's adventures would have to wait for Episode VIII. Don't get disheartened since *Rogue One* will fill the gap that would pave the way towards the next film coming this 2017.

Upon the film's premiere, it harbored overwhelmingly positive review and praises around the globe. From the casting, the action sequence, music and up to the CGI, every part of the film breathes awesomeness that would stop big screen goers from taking a bathroom break. Although some criticism was publicly posted, there is no doubt about the film's success since it ranked as the 6th highest grossing film of 2016.

Although described as a lite version of Star Wars, *Rogue One* should not be taken lightly because it has proved that it can carry itself and has risen among the ranks of 2016 premiered films. Another sweet factor of the film's popularity is how emotional the scenes were depicted. The film also didn't hold back in being bold and taking huge risks which actually resulted into a positive outcome.

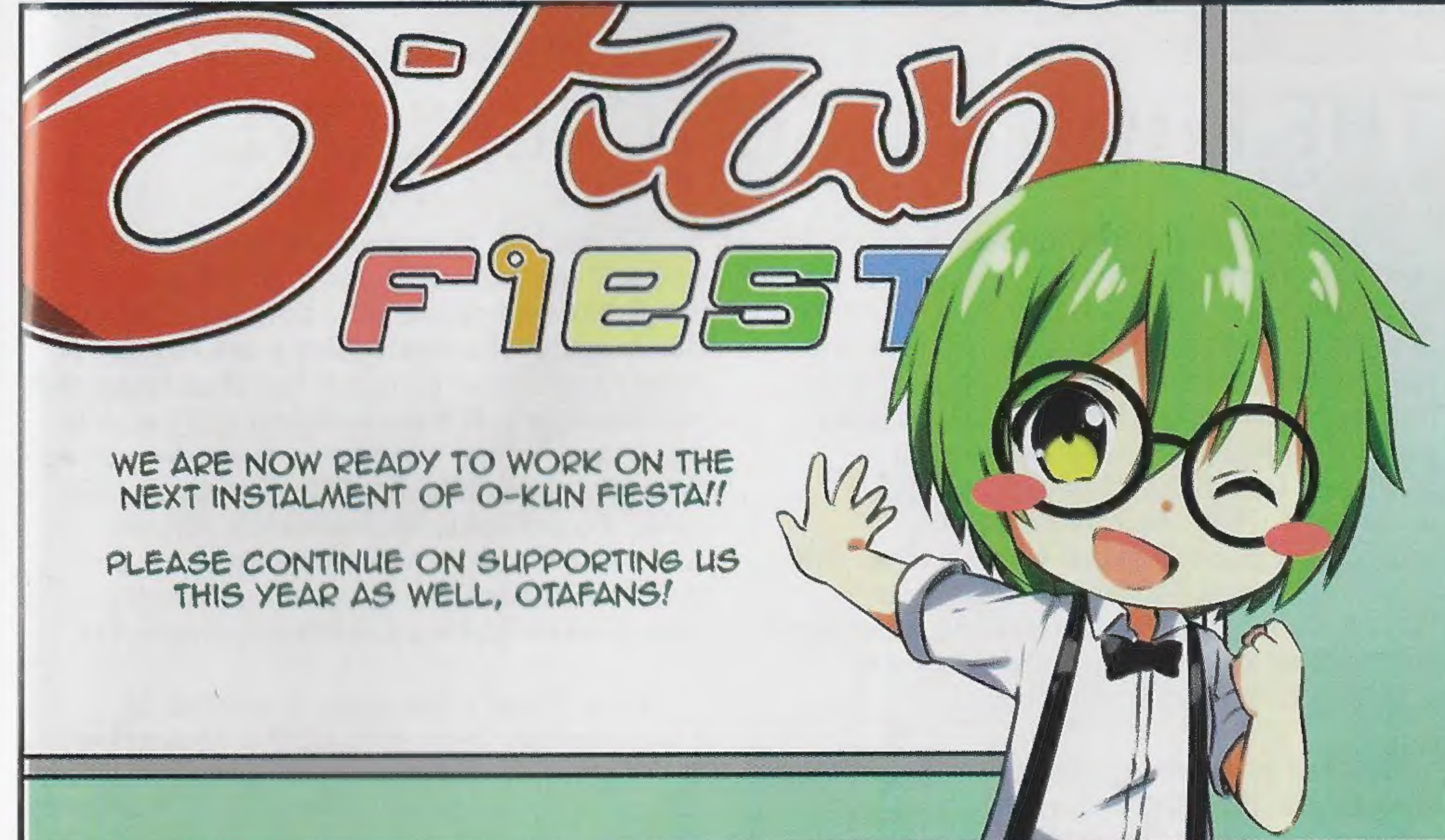
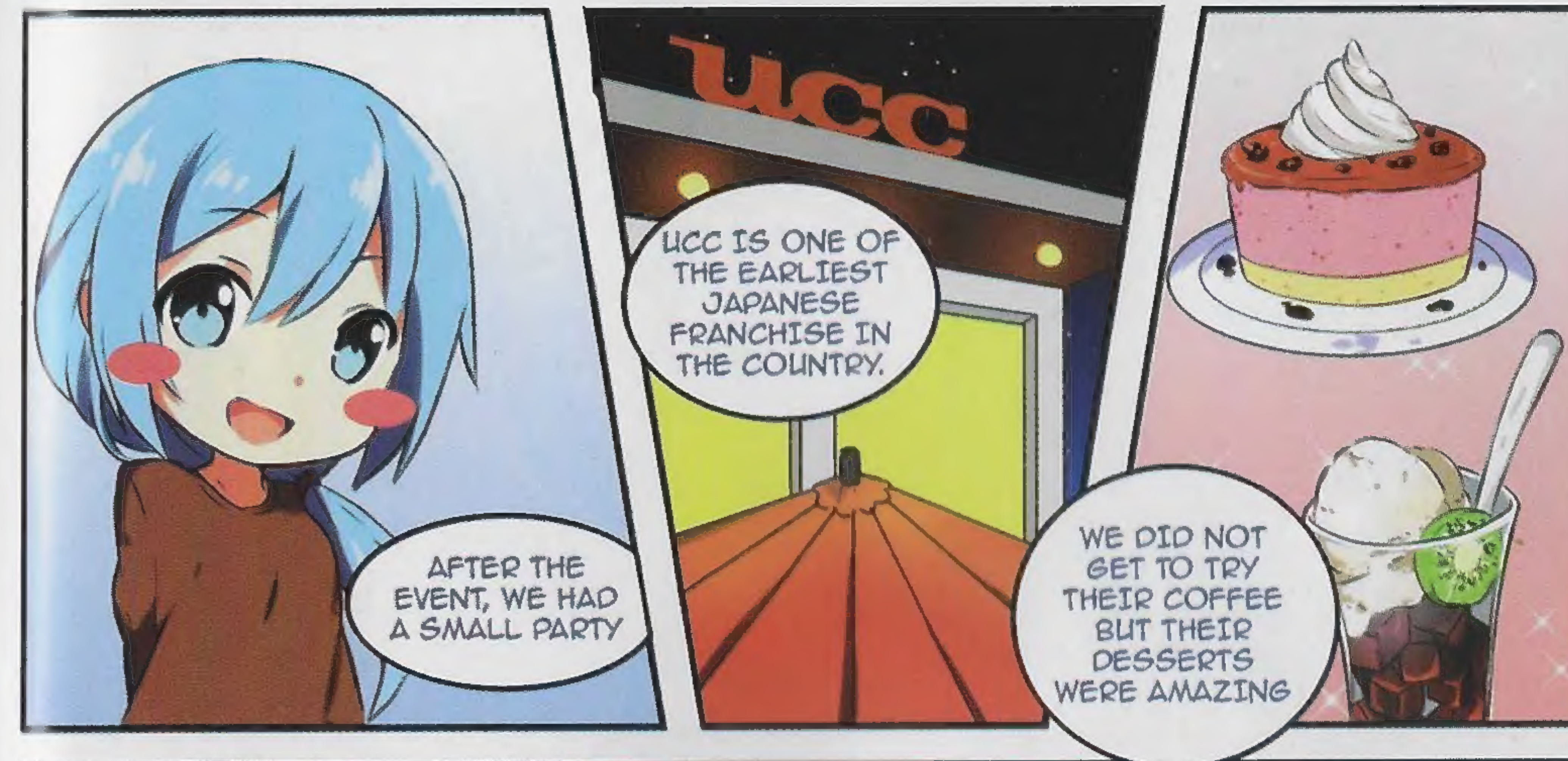
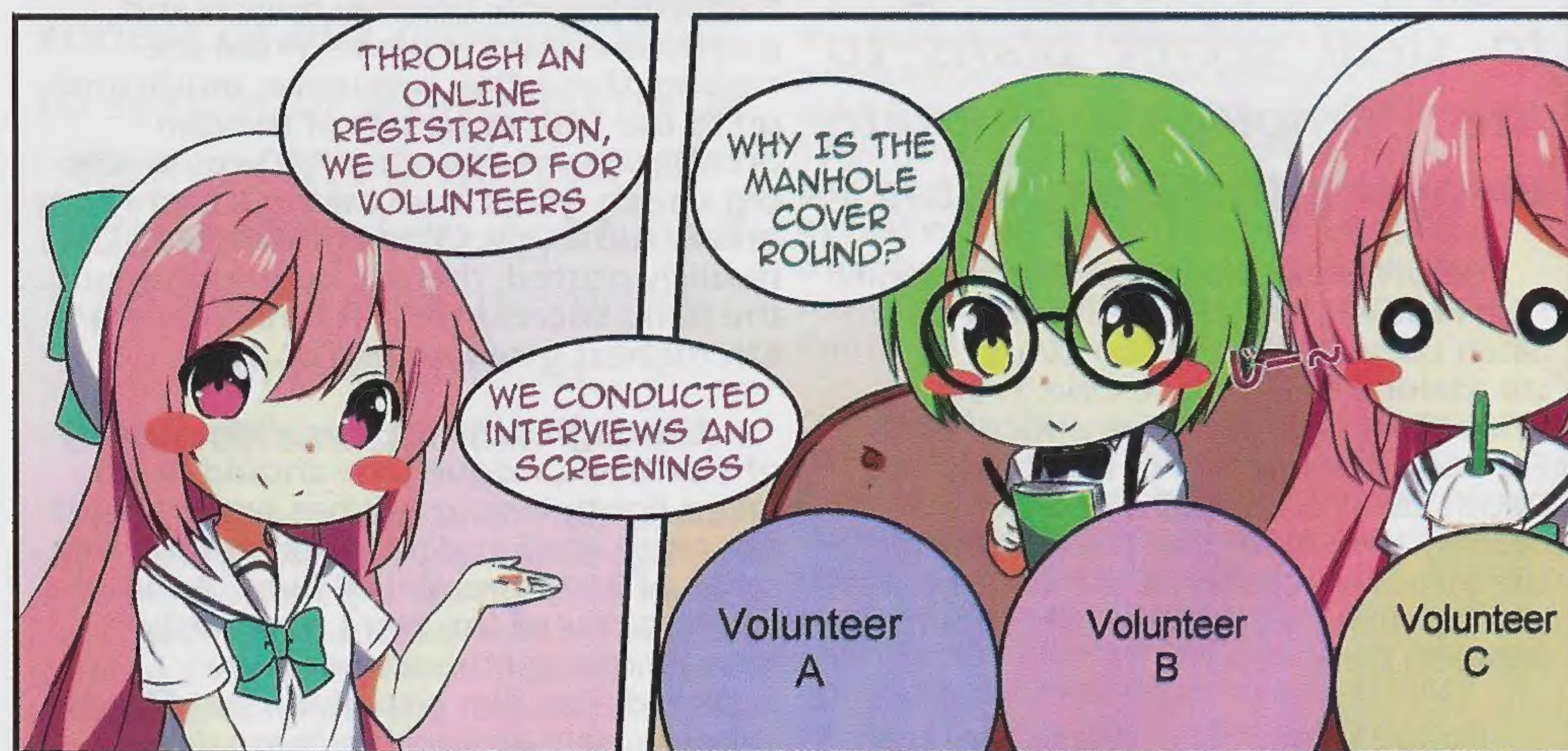
*Within this age of sadness and strife, a band of heroes had gathered in order to stop an evil ambition.*

As history continues to prove that ordinary people can achieve extraordinary feats, Star Wars also continues to bring forth epic stories that would keep viewers watching by the edge of their seats.





# O-KUN TALES



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#THROWBACK



citrus

## THE FRUIT OF SISTERLY LOVE

By Reikisha

Yuzuko's life suddenly took a drastic turn when her mother remarried. Instead of experiencing a carefree high school life with a hot boyfriend, she must try and fit in with the conservative girls at her new school and learn how to deal with Mei, her new stepsister who happens to be the student council president. Their relationship is... extremely complicated to describe. Mei's random sexual advances confuses Yuzuko's feelings and starts to wonder if her hatred towards her stepsister is starting to become attraction.

Citrus is an on-going shoujo-ai manga by Saburouta that was published by Ichijinsha under the Comic Yuri Hime magazine since November 17, 2012. Seven Seas Entertainment is responsible for the North American release of the manga since December 16, 2014. Citrus has a total of 5 volumes as of September 6, 2016.

An anime adaptation of Citrus was announced along with Netsuzou TRap. However, the official premier date has yet to be revealed.

Citrus is a manga that comes out every 2 months in a year, but it's forgivable because you will see how high the quality of a mangaka's art can be if they're allowed to work for that long. As for the story, it's something that you'll see in any other romance manga—except that it's used in a shoujo-ai manga this time. To offset this drawback, Citrus focuses on character development so that the readers can get emotionally attached or hate a particular character.

One thing's for sure, it's hard to permanently hate one of the characters in Citrus. For example, Mei was hated due to her unreasonable behavior in the early chapters, but she does it for a good reason. These characters, along with 2 months of careful planning of the plot progression, makes Citrus a very interesting manga to read even though shoujo-ai is not our cup of tea.

A bit of a warning though~ If you're the type that can easily catch up to the latest chapter, you'll realize how painful it would be to wait every 2 months for the next chapter to be released. Especially now that you've considered putting Citrus into your to-read list.



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